

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 4194.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1908.

PRICE
THREEPENCE
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER.

Lectures.

THE BRITISH ACADEMY.

SCHWEICH LECTURES ON BIBLICAL ARCHEOLOGY.
The Rev. S. R. DRIVER, D.D., Fellow of the British Academy, Regius Professor of Hebrew in the University of Oxford, will deliver the INAUGURAL SCHWEICH LECTURE on WEDNESDAY, March 15, MONDAY, March 30, and THURSDAY, April 2, at 5 o'clock, in THE THEATRE, BURLINGTON HOUSE, BURLINGTON GARDENS, W. (Vice Street), on "Archæological Research in Relation to Biblical Study." Lecture I, "Sketch of the Progress of Research during the Last Century." Lectures II, and III, "Canaan as known through Inscription and Excavation." The Lectures are open to the Public.

Societies.

ROYAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

(Incorporated by Royal Charter.)
An ORDINARY MEETING of the SOCIETY will be held on THURSDAY, March 19, at 7, SOUTH SQUARE, GRAY'S INN, W.C., when Sir HENRY BOWTHORPE, K.C.L.E. F.R.S., will read a Paper on "The Rise of Julius Cæsar, with an Account of his Early Friends, Enemies, and Rivals" (Part I.).
H. E. MALDEN, Hon. Sec.

**THE FOLK-LORE SOCIETY.—THE NEXT MEETING of this SOCIETY will be held at 22, ALBEMARLE STREET, PICCADILLY, on WEDNESDAY, March 18, at 8 p.m., when a Lecture on "Folk Music" will be given by Mr. CECIL J. SHARP. The Lecture will be illustrated. Vocalist, Miss MATTIE KAY (Bechstein Grand Pianoforte). F. A. MILNE, Secretary.
11, Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, W.C., March 9, 1908.**

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OIL PAINTINGS, SATURDAY, March 28, and MONDAY, March 30. SCULPTURE, TUESDAY, March 31.

No work will under any circumstances be received before or after these specified dates.

All works must be delivered at the Burlington Gardens Entrance. None will be received at the Piccadilly Entrance.

Hours for the reception of works, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Forms and Labels can be procured during the month of March only from the Academy. Applications must be accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope.

Educational.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.—PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION.—The NEXT PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION of the LIBRARY ASSOCIATION will be held MAY 18-23, 1908, at the ST. BRIDE FOUNDATION, Fleet Street, E.C., and at various Provincial Centres. Last date of entry, APRIL 20. Copies of the Syllabus, together with all details, can be obtained on application to ERNEST A. BAKER, M.A. D.Litt., Hon. Sec. Education Committee, 24, Whitcomb Street, W.C.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.—SUMMER SCHOOL.—A SUMMER SCHOOL for PROVINCIAL and other STUDENTS will be held at the LONDON SCHOOL of ECONOMICS, JULY 15-18, 1908. Courses of Lectures will be given in all Sections of the Syllabus, and visits to Libraries and Printing and Binding Works will be arranged. Applications for admission should be sent not later than APRIL 15, to ERNEST A. BAKER, M.A. D.Litt., Hon. Sec. Education Committee, 24, Whitcomb Street, W.C.

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Particulars relating to the Appointments may be obtained from the undersigned not later than TUESDAY, March 24, 1908. Applicants are requested to name the Subject in respect of which they desire information.
OWEN OWEN, Chief Inspector.
Central Welsh Board, Cardiff, March 9, 1908.

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February 7, 1908.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
BOMBAY IN THE DAYS OF GEORGE IV.	313
THE EPISTLES TO THE THESSALONIANS	314
PERDITA: A ROMANCE IN BIOGRAPHY	315
MILAN UNDER THE SFORZA	316
NEW NOVELS (White Rose of Weary Leaf; St. David of the Dust; The Pulse of Life; The Red Peril; The Path of Lies; India's Saint and the Viceroy; Beatrix of Clare; The Worst Man in the World; John Brown, Buccaneer; The Last of her Race; The Nun; Die Gotischen Zimmer)	317-318
HEBREW AND SYRIAC	319
ESSAYS	319
BOOKS ON SOCIALISM	320
OUR LIBRARY TABLE (The Cruise of the Port Kingston; La Rivalité anglo-russe en Asie; The New York World; Annuaire Statistique; Lavisse's Histoire de France; A Short History of Philosophy; Vickers's Newspaper Gazetteer)	320-321
FRANCIS REGINALD STATHAM; THE DERIVATION OF "LONDON"; EDMONDO DE AMICIS	322
LIST OF NEW BOOKS	323
LITERARY GOSSIP	324
SCIENCE—BOOKS ON BIRDS; SOCIETIES: MEETINGS NEXT WEEK; GOSSIP	326-328
FINE ARTS—WATER-COLOUR EXHIBITIONS; THE DUBLIN MUNICIPAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART; ALLIED ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION; SALE; GOSSIP; EXHIBITIONS	328-330
MUSIC—MUSIC IN ITALY IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY; GOSSIP; PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK	331
DRAMA—MRS. BILL; TUDOR FACSIMILE TEXTS; GOSSIP	331-332
INDEX TO ADVERTISERS	332

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Edward West was appointed in 1822 Recorder to the King's Court of Bombay. He had been educated at Harrow, taken

a first-class in classics and mathematics at Oxford, been elected a Fellow of University College, and eight years before his appointment to Bombay had been called to the Bar. In 1815 West had published an essay on 'The Application of Capital to Land,' showing the "impolicy of any great restriction on the importation of corn." Ricardo, in the Preface to his 'Principles of Political Economy,' says that "Mr. Malthus and the author of the 'Essay' presented to the world, nearly at the same moment, the true doctrine of rent." His love of economics never deserted him, and from India West sent home a pamphlet on 'The Price of Corn and Wages of Labour.' In this tract he "suggested the precise plan upon which Mr. Canning's Corn Bill was framed." Ninety years after his first economic essay appeared it was republished by the Johns Hopkins University of Baltimore. West also published 'A Treatise of the Law and Practice of Extents,' and we are told, by one who spoke with authority, that "as a practical lawyer he belonged to the highest class of his profession." He had, therefore, many sound qualifications for the exalted judicial office to which he was appointed.

In 1773 the Regulating Act, by which Parliament first took upon itself direct responsibility for the government of India, was passed. In order that the King of England should, without proclaiming the fact, be sovereign of Bengal, and to prevent the tyranny and corruption of the Company's servants, a Supreme Court of Judicature was established at Calcutta, to consist of a Chief Justice and three other judges. It was not till fourteen years had passed that the Court of the Recorder was instituted in Bombay. Justice had previously been administered by the Mayor's Court, a body consisting of a Mayor and Aldermen chosen by the local Government, generally from the civil servants of the Company or the leading merchants of the place. The judges had no legal education, and the attorneys, who practised also as counsel, had seldom any training in a regular Court of Justice. By the royal charter instituting the new Court the Recorder, who was to preside, was to be a barrister of at least five years' standing, appointed by the Crown. The Mayor and Aldermen, however, still continued to sit on the bench as judges. The departments of the barrister and attorney were separated. The first Recorder was Sir William Syer, who presided over the Court for five years. He was succeeded by Sir James Mackintosh, "the man of promise," who some years before had been offered by "the Great Marquis" a professorship in the college which he erected on the banks of the Hughly for the education of civilians. Mackintosh lived at the old Government House at Parell, which was lent to him by the Governor, Jonathan Duncan: "It is a large, airy, and handsome house, with two noble rooms, situated in the midst of grounds that have much the character of a fine English park." He had brought a goodly library

with him. In the two noble rooms he spent most of his time, studying Kant and Fichte, and reading Scott and Wordsworth. "We have been delighted," he writes, "with Cowper's third volume, even more than with either of the former. His mixture of playfulness and tenderness is very bewitching. He is always smiling through his tears." Mackintosh did not, in season and out of season, rail at the society of Bombay, but he attempted to raise its intellectual tone by founding the Literary Society, which was intended to promote the study of the literature, religion, and manners and customs of the natives. Soon after his arrival he had to give judgment in some difficult and delicate cases which involved Government officials in corruption, and became unpopular in a small society which was still, to some degree, but not to the extent which Dr. Drewitt would lead us to suppose, tainted with abuses of the old order. He, however, in time secured the goodwill of his countrymen by his courtesy and genuine kindness of heart. Dr. Drewitt states: "Mackintosh retired to England, and carried with him to his grave the scars of the single-handed struggle for justice." It is true that his health suffered from the climate of Bombay, but he lived for twenty years after his return to England, and did some of his best work during his later life.

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Edward West was knighted on his appointment, and sailed with his wife, whom he had married a few weeks before, on August 7th, 1822, landing at Bombay on February 2nd of the following year. Lady West, fresh from an English country home, at once passed a sweeping condemnation on her sisters in exile. Twenty days after landing she enters in her diary: "Returning visits is a great bore, as all the people I have yet seen are unpleasing and vulgar, and wishing to be fine ladies." Time did not soften

her prejudice against the society over which she had been called to preside, and two years later we read :—

"We dined yesterday at Government House. I passed a pleasant day, as I sat between the Governor and the Bishop, who is, of course, a perfect and polite gentleman (a rarity here), and talked much of Edward's talents and the good he is doing, and that he would be Chief Justice of Calcutta."

A few days later Lady West, sitting at dinner between Sir Charles Chambers and the Bishop, almost finds it "England again from the manner and style of behaviour and conversation—so unlike the Goths here." The Bishop was Reginald Heber, poet, scholar, and divine, Bishop of Calcutta, and Metropolitan of India, who was at the time holding a visitation at Bombay. His sermons, however, did not meet with Lady West's approval: "He is not to me at all a very fine or interesting preacher." The delivery, we are told, was "bad, and the voice harsh and unpleasing." Another famous person took Lady West in to dinner, but did not prove so pleasant as the Bishop:

"Aug. 2. Yesterday we had a dinner to Sir Hudson Lowe. He took me to dinner, and is, I think, a stupid man; looks sheepish, very silent, and anything but pleasing."

"Aug. 14. We dined yesterday with the Chambers to meet Sir Hudson Lowe, who I certainly think one of the most unprepossessing persons I ever saw. He seems indifferent even to civility and attention."

Lady West was not herself particularly sensitive to civility and attention. Mountstuart Elphinstone, scholar and statesman, and acknowledged by Europeans and natives to be the most courteous of men, could not win her good graces. At first she found him very pleasant, but when official differences arose between the Chief Justice and the Governor we read: "Mr. Elphinstone was at the Scotch Church. He is not over-burdened with religion; for popularity he goes sometimes to one, sometimes to the other." Elphinstone went to the Scotch Church because he was a Presbyterian, and to the English Church because he was Governor of Bombay. Lady West writes to the Governor, informing him that she had "met several times at his house ladies of spotted reputation," and she states: "Of course I had a polite answer, pretending ignorance on the subject." A polite answer is what she did not deserve. The Chief Justice and his wife belonged to that unfortunate class who cultivate mental and physical combs. The question of precedence—that bugbear of a small society—seems to have haunted them. They dined with Sir Charles Colville, and had "a most unpleasant day," as "Edward had not his proper place assigned." Again at Parell: "The Governor thought proper not to allot any Lady to Edward, though the First Person in the Room." We are further told:—

"Edward wished to have come away quietly as soon as the gentlemen came up in the Drawing-Room, and to avoid Mr. Elphinstone, who stopped him at the head of the stairs, and said something about a

slight mistake. Edward, of course, asked for an explanation, this not being the first or the 10th time Mr. Elphinstone has behaved with rudeness at his house."

The next morning we have the extraordinary scene of a fiery colonel and the Chief Justice discussing on the beach a challenge from the Governor, which the Chief Justice very properly declined. Elphinstone mistook "explanation" for "satisfaction." He wrote:—

"To challenge a Chief Justice is one of the last things that could have entered into my imagination. I understood you to have almost in plain terms challenged me, and when I sent a friend to you this morning, it was not without a hope that on reflection you would have expressed your regret at the proceeding adopted."

A battle of letters was bound to follow, but Elphinstone was able at last to close the controversy by an epistle which even Lady West acknowledged to be "a very gentlemanlike and proper letter."

In a memoir of Sir Edward West the ashes of long-forgotten controversies had to be raked up. The hearty abuse which Lady West, when aggrieved, dashed against her husband's opponents may be pardoned, and even read with cynical amusement; but Dr. Drewitt's often unfair commentary on men and events cannot be read without pain. The dust of the dead has been at times unduly disturbed. The case of William Erskine, historian and Oriental scholar, is discussed at undue length and with considerable acrimony. The matter can be put in a small compass, and the conclusion is drawn from a careful study of the records of the period. William Erskine, who was Master in Equity and Clerk of the Court for Small Causes, was removed from these offices and accused of defalcations. The Recorder, we consider, acted rightly in removing him from them for neglect of duty, and for allowing himself to be too much in the hands of his native clerk; but of Erskine's own honesty there can be no doubt. At the time the residents of Bombay considered that West's conduct had been harsh, and on Erskine's departure a letter was sent to him from the Bombay Literary Society, of which he was secretary, expressing its regret at his departure and the high sense it entertained of the "important benefits that he had conferred upon it," and stating that he would always be remembered with "sentiments of truest respect and esteem." William Erskine was one of the gentlest and most modest of scholars, unfit to be Clerk of an Indian Small Cause Court, but he was also one of the most generous of men. His 'History of India under Babar and Humayun' places him in the first rank of English historians. The book, however, by which he is best known is the translation of Babar's memoirs, one of the most delightful of works. The title-page states that it was translated partly by Leyden and partly by Erskine. But the translation was mainly made by the latter, and the profits of the work were devoted to the help of Leyden's father.

Edward West and Mountstuart Elphinstone were both noble at heart; both were desirous to eradicate old abuses and do justice to the natives. But an official collision between a Recorder who was appointed by the Crown to preside over a high tribunal with a jurisdiction as yet undefined with sufficient accuracy, and who was filled with a desire to reform, but had no knowledge of the character of Orientals, and a Governor who had spent twenty-five years in the country, had risen through all the gradations of public service, had a thorough knowledge of the people, and had to regard matters from an executive point of view, was inevitable as fate. But this collision ought not to affect our belief in the moral character of the two combatants. It has, however, impaired the judgment of West's biographer. He can see little that is good in a man who disagreed with his hero; he considers that Elphinstone's love of popularity led him into methods "too clever by half"; it caused "a loss of that scrupulousness in word and deed which has happily been an attribute of most great Englishmen." But there is no evidence brought forward to support this grave charge against one who was considered by his contemporaries, European and Indian, as the soul of honour.

The best testimony of the success of Elphinstone's eight years' rule is the address presented to him by the native inhabitants of the Presidency on the eve of his departure. Besides presenting him with this they subscribed the handsome sum of 20,000*l.* for the foundation of professorships for the purpose of teaching the natives the English language and the arts, sciences, and literature of Europe. The natives of Bombay, Hindus, Parsees, and Mohammedans, combined and founded a scholarship in order to honour and perpetuate West's memory also. Both men possessed the two great elements of social virtues: respect for the rights of others, and sympathy for the trials and sufferings of all men. We are glad that justice has at last been done to the Indian career of Edward West and the good fight he fought. The book will be of use to the historian on account of the important material it contains, which has evidently cost considerable labour and careful research. Its utility is greatly enhanced by a valuable index, and the proofs have been read with commendable care.

St. Paul's Epistles to the Thessalonians.

The Greek Text, with Introduction and Notes by George Milligan, D.D. (Macmillan & Co.)

THIS commentary deserves high praise. Dr. Milligan has done everything that can be expected from an editor. He has examined carefully nearly all the works that could throw light on his subject. He has extracted from them whatever might help to render the meaning clear. He has written a valuable Introduction on Thessalonica, the Thessalonian Church, the language and doctrine of the Epistles,

their authenticity and integrity, and similar matters. He has put together a list of the MSS. and the Fathers on whose authority the text is based; and he has supplied a selected list of commentaries and books relating to the language of the Epistles. Every part bears traces of conscientious labour, and great care has been taken with the printing, such mistakes as "Griesswald," διφθεραί, and σέλιδες being rare.

The special feature of the commentary is its constant appeal to the language of the papyri and the Septuagint. Great facilities are now afforded for doing this by Redpath's complete concordance to the Septuagint, the indexes with which the published papyri are furnished, and the grammars of the language of inscriptions and papyri which have recently appeared. Dr. Milligan seems to have made a diligent search through them all. His work looks most similar to Ellicott's commentary on the two Epistles; but much new matter is introduced by his acquaintance with the *κοινή*, and knowledge of recent (especially German) literature on St. Paul and his work.

Dr. Milligan belongs, however, in some respects to the old school of commentators. He is not so anxious to discover what St. Paul really thought as to make St. Paul's words mean what is in harmony with his own theology. Also, in discussing the genuineness of the Epistles, he unconsciously assumes an apologetic attitude. He tries to state fairly what are the arguments employed against the authenticity of the second Epistle; but he cannot do this without qualifying them in such a way that they take a different form from what they would do if those who believed them were stating them. He is also inclined to be biased somewhat in his references to the literature on the subject. Thus he mentions that Von Soden defends the genuineness of the first Epistle, but he does not state that the same scholar rejects the second Epistle. Von Soden adduces strong arguments against its Pauline authorship, and Dr. Milligan would have done well if he had met these fully and fairly. Though Dr. Milligan belongs to the conservative school of theologians, time has produced a marked difference between him and Ellicott. The one great question that arises in connexion with the Epistles to the Thessalonians is the opinion of the writer or writers in regard to the second coming of Christ. In the one Epistle this coming is set forth as near at hand; in the second the words rather point to a more distant date. Dr. Milligan maintains that there is no inconsistency. He states that there can be no doubt "that, in common with all the other Apostolic writers, St. Paul regards this Parousia as close at hand." And in a note he refers "to the teaching of our Lord Himself, on which doubtless in the last instance this belief rested." He interprets the passage in the Epistle which expresses the nearness of Christ's appearance as containing a statement that St. Paul had it "on the direct authority of the Lord

Himself that we who are surviving when the Lord comes will not in any way anticipate those who have fallen asleep." In other words, he thinks that St. Paul received a direct revelation that the coming of Christ was near at hand. But he maintains that the statement in the second Epistle does not mean that the coming was to be long delayed. Simply it was not to take place immediately. St. Paul held to the end, he affirms, the belief that the time was near:—

"As a matter of fact the near approach of the Parousia here implied would seem, notwithstanding many statements to the contrary, to have been held by St. Paul throughout his life."

Dr. Milligan says that the Apostles "were mistaken in this belief," and he speaks of "the want of system which distinguishes so much of his [Paul's] eschatology both here and elsewhere." Ellicott's comment on the words of the Epistle is very different:—

"It does not seem improper to admit that in their ignorance of the day of the Lord (Mark xiii. 32) the Apostles might have imagined that He who was coming would come speedily, but it does seem incautious to ascribe to inspired men definite expectations, since proved to be unfounded, when the context, calmly weighed and accurately interpreted, supplies no certain elements for such startling deductions."

Dr. Milligan expresses surprise that so few English scholars have devoted their attention to the study of the Epistles to the Thessalonians. But it is easy to explain this neglect. The Epistles contain two groups of passages. In the first group there is no difficulty. The meaning is plain, and even the ordinary person who reads the Revised Version only, and does not know Greek, can scarcely go wrong. The other set of passages are really unintelligible, some of them because they imply a knowledge of special circumstances of which there is no historical record, and the others because there is absolutely no clue to their meaning. This is specially the case with the most notable of the group—that referring to the man of lawlessness in the second chapter of the second Epistle. Dr. Milligan devotes an appendix to presenting the opinions of theologians in all ages in regard to the perplexing verses, and the result visible from this survey is that no one has propounded anything in regard to the man of lawlessness that can command belief, and that no one is a whit the wiser in consequence of any of the explanations hazarded.

In other appendixes Dr. Milligan discusses the meanings of various words occurring in the text—ably, but without adding much to our knowledge of the meaning of the Epistles. In one he treats of 'St. Paul as a Letter-Writer.' He propounds the opinion that

"St. Paul was apparently the first to recognize the full possibilities that lay in a letter as a means of conveying religious instruction." It is more likely that St. Paul never thought of the possibilities of letter-writing, but wrote the letters because he

had no other means of communicating to the persons addressed the instruction which he wished to impart to them. And it would have been judicious on the part of Dr. Milligan if he had examined Hercher's 'Epistolographi Græci,' before pronouncing any opinion on the history of letter-writing. Dr. Milligan would have seen the statement that Aristotle's letters in all probability dealt with various aspects of his philosophy; and he might have come to similar results in connexion with other philosophers who lived before the Christian era. Dr. Milligan alludes to the fact that Jewish writers also employed letters for religious declarations, but he does not lay sufficient stress on the letters in the First Book of the Maccabees, as he would probably have done if he had consulted Wehofer's 'Untersuchungen zur altchristlichen Epistologie.'

Perdita: a Romance in Biography. By Stanley V. Makower. (Hutchinson & Co.)

In an address to the reader (placed, however, at the end of the book, in close proximity to a Bibliography) the author writes:—

"While all the persons named in 'Perdita: a Romance in Biography,' existed in fact, and while the greater number of scenes, conversations, and incidents in this book rest on historical facts, it has been found expedient to present the whole mainly in the form of fiction, in order to preserve a larger truth than could be conveyed in a purely historical narrative."

The experiment, inspired by a well-known dictum of Thackeray as to fiction carrying "a greater amount of truth in solution" than a volume purporting to be "all true," is one requiring many qualities in the writer if success is to be ensured. It was tried with some success by the author of a book called 'A German Pompadour,' upon which we commented favourably about two years ago; and Mr. Makower has done still better, showing equal literary skill, and interweaving more of the biographical element into the fabric of his narrative.

The highly romantic life of the woman who as Perdita in 'The Winter's Tale' attracted the fleeting affections of George, Prince of Wales, and was led by him to renounce a promising career, has been often glanced at with a view to its central episode, but seldom regarded as a whole. As here told, the story is a veritable microcosm of eighteenth-century life, not only the relation of the first important intrigue of a royal debauchee; so that the mere lover of scandal will be compelled, whether he will or no, to see things in their right perspective. The true atmosphere is there, and the figures that move in it are made to act as they did act, and speak as they might have spoken, whilst the motives ascribed to them have at least an air of great plausibility.

Mr. Makower seems to have followed pretty closely the outline of Perdita's

career as sketched, with his characteristic precision, by the late Joseph Knight in the 'Dictionary of National Biography.' The author has naturally filled in some parts of the purely personal history (especially the story of Mary Darby's marriage with the adventurer Robinson, and some incidents of her last days) with more freedom than he has used in treating her public life. On the other hand, he makes no mention of the "academy" she is said to have opened in Paris, and, somewhat strangely, has neglected to make any use of what one would have thought the piquant material afforded by the reception of Mrs. Robinson's play 'Nobody,' in which Mrs. Jordan appeared. As a satire on lady gamblers the piece was much resented by fashionable society, and was hissed by great ladies in person or by servants specially sent for the purpose. We do not know whether the actress was in the house. The play was apparently not published, and therefore is not included in the list of Mrs. Robinson's works drawn up by her present biographer. These range from poems published when the future Perdita was in her teens to the 'Memoirs' which she left to be edited by her daughter, and which were re-edited so recently as 1894. Mrs. Robinson was hailed in her day as the British Sappho, and Burke was induced to admit some of her lines into 'The Annual Register'; but her effusions were distinguished by little more than sentimental fluency.

Mr. Makower has probably idealized his heroine to some extent, though he by no means appears in the light of her indiscriminating admirer. Indeed, the general impression we get from his analysis of her character, as well as from her actions, is that she was more of a sentimental *poseuse*, with an almost unlimited love of admiration, than anything better or worse—an actress in real life no less than upon the boards. When a girl of fifteen she was induced by her mother to make a loveless marriage; and though she had no affection for her husband, she shared with him a detention of several months in a debtors' prison, and refused to retaliate in kind for his infidelities towards her. She is represented as resisting the overtures of the "wicked" Lord Lyttelton and George Robert Fitzgerald amongst others, and as untouched by any tender feeling for any one (unless it were Sheridan, who, however, confined the expression of his own admiration to her theatrical talent) till the correspondence with "Florizel." We cannot say that we find the analysis of Perdita's state of mind at this important period altogether clear or convincing: it is probable that both parties really imagined themselves to be in love. There can be little doubt that the discarded mistress afterwards entertained a real passion for Banastre Tarleton, the brilliant cavalry officer of the American war. He may have for a time reciprocated it; but he showed ultimately no adequate appreciation of the devotion which resulted in the permanent crippling

of a beauty in the prime of life. The pathetic scene at the opera-house in which the forsaken Perdita is seen by the Prince sitting propped up on a table, and afterwards carried out to her carriage by servants in white sleeves, is taken from the Hawkins 'Memoirs.'

The spirit in which the book is written precludes specific references; there is not a single foot-note to lighten the task of a would-be investigator. If there were, we would gladly hear something on the curious relations which seem to have subsisted for some time between Fox and Mrs. Robinson. Walpole's reference to their association, and Selwyn's poor jest about the Man of the People and the Woman of the People, are followed in the text by some mysterious words in which the statesman is supposed to explain the position as a practical joke upon the public, and some still more obscure comments. The conclusion, however, is that the connexion was purely platonic, which seems not unlikely. That it was Fox who obtained Mrs. Robinson's pension for her is, at any rate, certain. By the by, "Armstead" is not accurate as the spelling of the name of the lady he married subsequently, nor "Earl Derby" a correct designation for the nobleman who wedded Perdita's stage rival.

Another point on which we should like to be enlightened is the miniature supposed to represent Fighting Fitzgerald. No portrait of undoubted authenticity is known of the Irish duellist; and the face depicted in the miniature here reproduced bears no particularly strong resemblance to that in the portrait which has been held to represent either him or Stephen Kemble. Mr. Makower appears to have relied rather too much upon the so-called 'Memoirs' of the somewhat mythical Hibernian, who, moreover, we have some reason to think, was scarcely the rake he is here made to appear. This, however, is but a subsidiary matter.

Mrs. Robinson must have been a gifted actress. She was to have played Cordelia to Garrick's Lear before her marriage, and the old actor's lessons had much to do with her triumphant début as Juliet. During her short career of something less than four years she showed considerable range, making hits in "breeches parts" such as *Fidelia* as well as succeeding in *Imogen* and the *Lady in 'Comus'*; and her acting seems to have chiefly contributed to the saving from failure of Sheridan's 'Trip to Scarborough.' Circumstances alone prevented her appearance in 'The School for Scandal,' the author of which was most anxious to secure her for its production. The author of 'Perdita' gives us some vivid stage scenes, and also several demonstrations of his heroine's abilities in real life. Perhaps her most notable feat was her discomfiture of one of her husband's creditors, whom she dexterously induced to forgo his claim without compromising her threatened honour. Her personal attractions may be judged of from the canvases of Gainsborough, Romney, and Reynolds, to be seen in the Wallace

Collection. Reproductions are included here with some discriminating criticism of the comparative merits of the pictures.

There are several passages of delicate descriptive writing in the book, but they are too long to quote. Among the best are the pages which present Perdita's hurried journey to the coast, which saved Tarleton from ruin, but cost his mistress her health; and those in which the invalid is depicted sitting in a German forest, reading the account of Fitzgerald's execution, and lulling her sense of horror by steeping her senses in the beauties of nature. "For supernatural horrors she had a weakness, and would have found nothing repulsive, however alarming, in the apparition of Fitzgerald's ghost in an avenue of tapering trees near which she was seated." The news of Lyttelton's sudden death and the ghostly warning which preceded it had come to her in different surroundings, and without similar palliatives. The contrast between her harrowed feelings on this occasion and her husband's callousness ("Poor Lyttelton," said Tom: "What are trumps?") is masterly.

Refreshingly unhackneyed is the treatment of the Prince's personality. One is made to feel both the reality and the superficiality of the charm he exercised in his youth; and the transition from the graceful, accomplished, sentimental Prince Florizel of Kew (he had "looked with tender condescension upon himself as the august patron of Shakespeare who had brought the poet up to date, as it were, in pinning the diamond buckles of his princely invention upon the feet of a living Perdita") to the Silenus of Carlton House, is admirably touched off.

There is perceptible, perhaps, in some parts of the book, a tendency to preciosity. The author of 'The Diaboliad' and 'Dr. Syntax' is always referred to as "Coombe," a misspelling probably suggested by the pronunciation of the name. But the faults are few and far between, and the merits considerable. The latter far exceed those of the ordinary popular biography, and the impression left is that of literature rather than book-making.

A History of Milan under the Sforza. By Cecilia M. Ady. Edited by E. Armstrong. (Methuen & Co.)

If the quality of the 'History' before us—the first volume of a projected series on "The States of Italy"—is typical of the series, the publishers may rest assured of the success of their scheme. We congratulate the young author, who has an hereditary right to feel herself at home in the field of Italian history, on a solid and valuable performance. Her book is neither a study nor a collection of essays, but, as far as the exigencies of a limited space have permitted, a true history of the subject. In point of construction, narrative skill, and judgment on men and matters, it would do credit to a far more experienced historian. The

wide range of authorities enumerated in the bibliography has evidently been mastered with care; the style—not without an agreeable flavour of irony at times—is clear and attractive.

Ample room undoubtedly exists for a history of Milan under the Sforza. The story of Milan as a whole is much less familiar to the average English reader than that of Florence or Venice; yet its importance, from the point of view of the political student, is not easily overrated. Among those Lombard city-states which kept alive the germ of popular government, and maintained, even under a despotism, the theory of popular rights, Milan, by her geographical position and international relations, necessarily occupied the most considerable place. Many of the problems which have since perplexed modern statesmen are to be found complicating, at one time or another, the course of her existence. In her history may be studied, as on a miniature scale, the development of political phenomena afterwards to be repeated on a larger field. The policy of the Trivulzi in 1449 foreshadows that of Marat and Robespierre in 1793. The rise of the Cabinet system is to be observed two hundred years before Charles II. and the Cabal, in connexion with the Government of Lodovico il Moro. The difficulties of Imperialism receive illustration in the dealings of Milan with Genoa, Cremona, and other cities over which she exercised a precarious suzerainty; and those who hold that a republican power is *ipso facto* precluded from carrying out an Imperial policy with success may find some support for their view in the failure of the Captains and Defenders of Liberty who ruled in the name of the Ambrosian Republic to uphold the authority of Milan over her subject towns—a failure which largely assisted in the downfall of the Republic itself.

That brief, but not altogether inglorious episode in Milanese story is admirably told by our author, whose remarkable gift of narrative serves her well in the restatement of this and many another tangled tale of her chosen period. Among the kaleidoscopic variations of a time when leagues and counter-leagues sprang up in a night, and were dissolved in a few weeks' time, only to reappear in fresh combinations, Miss Ady moves with ease, carrying her reader with her. Her analysis of the motives prompting these perpetual changes of position is sound and, in one or two cases, singularly acute.

The breadth of view shown by Miss Ady in dealing with the course of events is present also in her handling of character. For scrupulous fairness, and absence of any attempt to extenuate moral failing combined with careful allowance for the ethical standpoint of another age, it would not be easy to improve upon the spirit in which she has drawn the portraits of Francesco Sforza and his sons. Nor are these portraits mere cold anatomies; on the contrary, they live and compel sympathy. Our author is equally suc-

cessful in dealing with sitters of less commanding personality: Massimiliano and Francesco II. are alike excellently done; the ineffectual Bona of Savoy justifies, in these pages, the irritation she produced in her contemporaries; even the slight sketches of the two Borromean archbishops are full of life. We need hardly be surprised that Miss Ady throws no fresh light on Leonardo da Vinci; ordinary human nature has probably gone already as far as it is likely to go in its comprehension of that Superman. She has, at least, pleasantly diversified the point of approach to a many-sided personality. We have all heard a good deal about Leonardo the military engineer; Miss Ady, while noting, as in duty bound, this aspect of his manifold activity, prefers to dwell rather upon Leonardo the sanitary and housing reformer, the town-planner, and designer of a system of traffic which may be commended to the notice of those who have to reconcile the requirements of motorists with the restriction within bounds of the highway rate.

Milan fills a humble niche in the temple of Italian literature—its separate dialect is probably in part responsible for its poor literary record—and Miss Ady's account of its achievements in letters is almost necessarily dull. The chapter on architecture, which suffers from no similar lack of interesting material, is good; and that on art may be commended, though we demur to the suggestion that experiments, as opposed to commissions, in art during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries were possible only under princely rule.

The book has a good index, and the genealogical tables are adequate. One serious omission, however, mars the completeness of the work: it contains no map of any kind.

NEW NOVELS.

White Rose of Weary Leaf. By Violet Hunt. (Heinemann.)

AMY STEEVENS—"the Best woman, the really newest woman," as one of the other characters describes her—is the most interesting heroine that Miss Hunt has yet achieved. That she is entirely human we cannot say; but as the varied and not always pleasing incidents in the career of this waif of society are unrolled before us we recognize that she possesses the qualities of honesty and courage in an unusual degree, and that they help to set her above the stale and squalid atmosphere of the Divorce Court with which her surroundings are tainted. Amy is at no time an adventuress in the ordinary sense of the word; the necessity for a friendless girl to earn her bread in whatever way presents itself, and the genuine passion for making herself useful which is her dominant characteristic, combine to place her in those ambiguous positions which Miss Hunt appears to consider necessary for her heroines. Amy's story really begins when, for the second time,

she enters Jeremy Dand's family as companion, a post from which she had been previously ejected for interfering with a man in a Parisian hotel who attempted to shoot himself. Now there is a second Mrs. Dand, and this pale, clever girl speedily makes herself indispensable to every member of a peculiarly artificial household, and not least to its splendid, but rather uncouth master. The ultimate catastrophe is approached with all the skill and originality of which Miss Hunt is mistress, and when it arrives it is remorselessly complete. The story is undoubtedly clever, chiefly because, while there is much in it that jars, and no single character that is essentially attractive, Miss Hunt succeeds in compelling our respect and sympathy for the "White Rose," and that although she is one of those women "who live by their heads, not their hearts."

St. David of the Dust. By Mrs. Fred Reynolds. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THE constant use of the present participle in the speech of the Welsh villagers of this story, instead of a mere suggestion of the peculiarity, threatens to be tiresome. One is also a little afraid that the "rich silences" and some other idiosyncrasies of the hero, a sort of village "natural," may prove monotonous. This is not wholly the case. As the story unfolds (in spite of a certain mistiness in the central figure), and with it the characters of the simple, yet shrewd mountain-dwellers, there is something in the drama, its persons and scenery, that compels interest and sympathy. The author knows how to produce the spirit of lonely places—of great stretches of mountain, moor, and marshland, their animal and vegetable life, and the transient effects of sky and weather. These are the background to the curious figure of the boy who springs as it were from the dust. His father no one knows; his mother arrives in the village on a night of storm, equally unknown, and, dying almost immediately after the birth of her boy, passes away without words. The stranger-child—strange in every way—is brought up by the good cottagers who receive her in her extremity and are themselves childless. They love the boy, yet he remains always a creature apart from them. With one other child only, and with Nature in all her moods, is he in full communion. These moods he strives to interpret by unknown melodies in his wanderings. Gradually the villagers come to look on him as a being superior rather than inferior to themselves. The beginning—the arrival of the woman—and the end—the discovery of the father and death of the boy—are in idea and incident, if not precisely in treatment, melodramatic. The rest of the book—especially all that concerns the boy, the girl, and another—is the reverse of commonplace. The study of the boy is sometimes too cloudy, too exalted, perhaps too ambitious, to be entirely realized. The character and presentment of the

boy's father seem to us out of focus with the rest—commonplace too, where they should be impressive; whereas some of the villagers have reality and vigour.

The Pulse of Life. By Mrs. Belloc Lowndes. (Heinemann.)

MRS. BELLOC LOWNDES has a curious notion of novel-writing. She chooses, say, six or eight more or less cosmopolitan characters, envelopes them in an atmosphere of Roman Catholicism, draws a veil of discreet reserve over the whole, and bids you look on from a respectful distance. The result is something a little more and a little less than life. This book has dignity and a certain amount of remote interest, but it is almost inhuman in its curious lack of spontaneity. The scene is laid in London—an unfamiliar London, which might as well have been St. Petersburg, for all the local colour it contains. We are not much concerned with the theme—that of the hero's love for a Spanish dancing girl; we say "theme" advisedly, for plot there is none. As for the characters themselves, they drift through the story without greatly exciting either sympathy or speculation. It is as if the writer had first drawn their outlines from life; then, fearing lest they should be recognized, had successfully blurred the details. At the same time no one who was not cosmopolitan in temperament as well as experience could have portrayed such diverse personalities. A little more humanity would have made them remarkable.

Like most women, the author is happiest in her portraits of women. The slight portrait of the trained nurse, with her professional interest, and real indifference, is one of the best things in the book, which shows throughout refinement and distinction. We have complained of too much reserve—a lack of emotional interest. But after all, the defects of Mrs. Lowndes are rarer than most virtues.

The Red Peril. By Coulson Kernahan. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THE beginning of this book is thrilling. A man goes by night to view a house he has just rented, and there, in the darkness, overhears three men discussing a sinister political plot. He is discovered, gagged, and left to destruction with a bomb close beside him. The book goes on to tell how he saved his own life, unravelled and frustrated the plot; and its development is wrought out with a great deal of spirit and skill. We follow the hero on a series of breathless adventures in Germany. The total failure of the intrigue against England is calculated to satisfy the most patriotic of readers. Mr. Kernahan has wandered far from the fields of his moral fantasy, but in this less distinguished line he is likely to be successful.

The Path of Lies. By Alice and Claude Askew. (F. V. White & Co.)

IN the sphere of machine-made fiction Mr. and Mrs. Askew hold a high position; that is to say, one goes to them not

for characterization, not for any vraisemblance, and not for projections of humanity in art, but frankly and plainly for ingenious plot. It is the task of the writers to elaborate a web of incident within which stock puppets move with as much of the air of being alive as it is possible to contrive. Sometimes the authors' ingenuity makes one admire; at other times one only wonders. The latest story of the collaborators is a very fair specimen of their talent. It is conceived with a shrewd dramatic instinct, and culminates in a striking melodramatic tragedy. The authors' public should appreciate it.

India's Saint and the Viceroy. By S. S. Thorburn. (Blackwood & Sons.)

SATIRE and idealism appear side by side in this imperfect, but decidedly interesting novel. The hero, Cosmo Sorel, is a millionaire who reforms the government of an important vassal State in India, and ends one of our little wars by the exercise, at considerable personal risk, of the charm of an angelic personality. On one occasion he produces the effect of a miracle by bidding an hysterical Pathan woman arise "and thank Allah." His mental standpoint resembles that of a Christian Scientist of an undenominational sort; and he is perfectly aware of his inability to cure lepers by the love of God. He is almost killed by a fanatic; and the writer shows that he has indeed a mighty power over his puppets when he restores Sorel to health in order to marry him to the Viceroy's daughter. Satire appears in the sketch of the self-satisfied Viceroy and the selection of "Topsham" as a surname for the Prime Minister whom he alternately praises and despises. It was inartistic to make Sorel suddenly turn into the real Lord Eskmore, and not flattering to a "saint" to make his renunciation of a title a theme of his delirium.

Beatrice of Clare. By John Reed Scott. (E. Grant Richards.)

TO those who enjoy a good historical romance we can thoroughly recommend Mr. Scott's new novel. The period is that of Richard III., the hero being one of his body knights, and the heroine a beautiful countess in her own right, a lady-in-waiting to the Queen. The author has made good use of his opportunities. The story is pleasantly told in a straightforward way, and, though the plot is not particularly original, the characters are well drawn, and the interest, both personal and historical, is maintained. The four coloured pictures by Clarence F. Underwood are good.

The Worst Man in the World. By Frank Richardson. (Eveleigh Nash.)

WE have found one jest in Mr. Richardson's book—which consists in his signing himself Frank Rothschild out of compliment to Orientals who "have changed their names from Cohen to Colquhoun."

We do not hold this up as a great piece of humour, but it is the best we can pick out of a remarkable medley. Mr. Richardson has apparently a mind that can think only in grotesques, and his tale is merely a rambling farce, with little coherence and less form. An inconsequent appendix, equally rambling, is added about poetry. It would be well if Mr. Richardson followed the example of another eminent specialist, and imposed silence on himself from a definite date—say Easter—regarding the appendages of the human face.

John Brown, Buccaneer. By George Griffith. (F. V. White & Co.)

A NOVELIST cannot be said to add to the joy of life when he revives in romance the crimes of the Holy Inquisition and the franker devilry of pirates; but Mr. Griffith, by merciful economy in nauseous detail and by generous indulgence in poetic justice, succeeds in interesting the reader without haunting him. The story opens with an *auto-da-fé* in which the Spanish husband of an English heretic is condemned to light the fire which consumes her; and it opens for the second time with the marooning of an English trader by the pirate who has dishonoured his wife. Vengeance is the inspiration of the story, in which the love-interest is slight.

The Last of her Race. By J. Bloundelle-Burton. (John Milne.)

DEFECTS of style are to be regretted here, since the story is admirably constructed, and for the most part forcibly set forth. The character of the Spanish lady of noble birth is well imagined, as are her relations with her young cousin and the English officer who wins her heart. The period is that of the War of the Spanish Succession, but we see little of the leaders or contending forces.

The Nun. By René Bazin. (Eveleigh Nash.)

MUCH that we said last week of 'For My Name's Sake,' a novel dealing with the suppression of convents in France, may be applied to this book, which is an English version of 'L'Isolée,' noticed by us on July 29th, 1905. The subject is presented from the sympathetic point of view, which implies considerable bias. Skill is shown in the delineation of the young *dévoté*, and the tragedy of a pure soul dominates the situation from the time of the closing of the convent. The book is excellent, but marred by exaggeration.

Die Gotischen Zimmer: Familienschicksale vom Jahrhundertende. Von August Strindberg. Verdeutsch von Emil Schering. (Munich and Leipsic, Georg Müller.)

GERMANY has for some time shown its appreciation of an author who has

received but scant attention in this country, and the present volume is one of a "Gesamtausgabe" on which Herr Schering has been engaged for the past few years. The rendering is eminently satisfactory, and may be recommended to English readers familiar with German, but not with Swedish. As a study of the development of Swedish thought during the latter years of last century 'Die Gotischen Zimmer' is of the highest value and interest, though as a work of fiction it may fail to please. There is no story in the ordinary sense of the word: certain characters are presented at different stages of their life, and express their views upon most of the questions that exercised the minds of men in those years—women's emancipation, naturalism in literature, materialism in science, the Dreyfus case, and so on. A good deal of the book is violent and depressing, and one may object that it gives a one-sided representation of the society with which it deals; but the whole thing is vivid and suggestive, and Strindberg's originality of outlook, unsparring observation, and forcible delineation of character are everywhere in evidence.

HEBREW AND SYRIAC.

Religion and Worship of the Synagogue. By the Rev. W. O. E. Oesterley and the Rev. G. H. Box. (Pitman & Sons.)—The joint authors of this work are to be congratulated on having written a book which at once clearly reveals the former gap and the laudable nature of the present effort to fill it. That the gap was not generally noticed before is no doubt due to the fact that a study of Judaism in its post-Christian forms of development is by many regarded as not sufficiently important to repay the labour and attention which would have to be spent on it. In answer to such a plea it may be safely asserted that modern Judaism is in many aspects so much like the Judaism of the earliest Christian times that a proper understanding of it is well calculated to promote a fuller appreciation of the origins of Christianity itself. Another kind of interest to be derived from a close study of modern Jewish religious customs, and one which is well brought out in the last chapter of the present work, is of a purely archaeological character. As the authors rightly say, we have in several of these customs a "unique example of a modern religious community in touch with a remote antiquity." We are now accustomed to compare a number of Old Testament ideas and practices with certain cognate forms of Babylonian law and religion; but one is often surprised to find how, even in the Judaism of to-day, so much has survived that is "expressive of ideas proper to primitive man."

The authors have approached the theme in a proper spirit of sympathy and discrimination; they have made good use of the best authorities at their command; and they have also done whatever was possible to gain personal impressions of several of the customs they describe. There is, however, as they themselves own, need for readjustment in details; and on a number of points improvements might easily be suggested. The omission of medieval Jewish mysticism, known as the "Kabbalah," is a serious drawback, for the

effect of this phase of thought on modern Judaism and several of its greatest authorities has been extensive.

Sermons in Syntax; or, Studies in the Hebrew Text. By the Rev. John Adams. (Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark.)—We cordially recommend the careful perusal of this book to all who desire to gain a clear insight into the varied and often picturesque use of verbal forms in Hebrew, and to employ the knowledge thus obtained for homiletical purposes. Mr. Adams uses the best authorities to good advantage, and, better still, he makes a real and successful effort to appreciate the niceties and dramatic effect of the Hebrew phrases themselves. With these qualifications he combines a vivid and pleasant style and (to use his own phrase, though not by him applied to himself) "the graphic touch of happy abandon which is not always found within the trammels of grammatical treatises." We have, in fact, rarely seen a book which, under a title apparently stiff and uninviting, provides valuable instruction in so attractive a manner. The first chapter treats of the value of Hebrew study; the second gives a brief account of Hebrew grammarians, Jewish and Christian; and the remaining twelve deal with the Hebrew tenses in all their forms and moods, Hebrew syntax being virtually identical with a close study of the various forms of the verb as employed in a sequence of sentences. It is in the elucidation of the special texts introduced to illustrate the grammatical propositions that the expository and homiletical element of the treatise appears.

The Religion of the Post-Exilic Prophets. By W. H. Bennett. (Same publishers.)—Prof. Bennett's new book is the first of a series of volumes on the "Literature and Religion of Israel" to be published under the general editorship of Dr. James Hastings, who on his part ascribes "the conception of the series, the arrangement of the literature into groups, and much else" to Prof. James Skinner. The entire number of volumes is to be ten, ranging from 'Foundations,' by Prof. Morris Jastrow, of the University of Pennsylvania, to 'Apocalyptic Literature,' by Prof. R. H. Charles, of Oxford. The general plan of the series

"is to describe briefly the literature itself and its authorship, and to bring out more fully the character of the ideas contained in it, and show their place in the development of religion."

In the exemplification of this plan as worked out by Prof. Bennett, the prophets (Ezekiel, the later Isaiah, Haggai, Zechariah, &c.) are first treated individually, in chronological order; and in the second part of the work the general teaching of the literature described "is expounded in relation to the main subjects of Dogmatics." Prof. Bennett's powers of teaching are so widely recognized that not much eulogy is required here. He is persuasive, candid, critical, and withal never over-venturesome. He moves along the main line of the most recent cautious scholarly investigation, but at the same time has special views of his own on certain matters. He thus fully carries out the general editor's intention that each writer should, whilst working in sympathy with the general plan, "endeavour to make his book a fresh and independent contribution to the knowledge of its subject." We think, however, that on some points Prof. Bennett might have practised self-restraint to some advantage. The comparison, for instance, between the English Protestant, who may attend the worship of the Established Church in the morning and that of the Baptists in the evening, and some

of the ancient Israelites, who may not have considered attendance at Solomon's Temple incompatible with occasional visits to the shrines of Baal and other heathen deities, seems a little harsh, and not essentially true. But the volume contains so much that is illuminating that little blemishes of this kind may be readily condoned.

Inscriptions sémitiques de la Syrie, de la Mésopotamie, et de la Région de Mossoul. Par H. Pognon. Part I. (Paris, Imprimerie Nationale.)—The inscriptions now for the first time published were copied by M. Pognon during the frequent travels he had to undertake in his capacity as French consul at Bagdad and Aleppo. There is, indeed, much need for collecting all the available similar records of those parts without unnecessary delay; for—as M. Pognon points out—the Arab and Kurd peasants are in the habit of breaking into fragments the ancient and mediæval monuments they discover, in the hope of obtaining the treasures to which, in their belief, the inscriptions point. The most important find made public in this part of M. Pognon's work is the Babylonian inscription of Eski-Harran with which the publication opens. The record is unfortunately mutilated, and there is room for various interpretations of the statements therein made; but it seems clear that a Nabonidus, son of the Babylonian king of the same name who was overthrown by Cyrus, played some part in the history of Babylon about 537 B.C. As the inscription emanated from a high-priest of Sin at Harran, we should have supposed it to have been deposited in or near the temple of the god; and M. Pognon has, in consequence of this consideration and of other data, arrived at the conclusion that the original site of the temple and city was not the spot occupied by the town which the Greeks called *Xappai*, and the Syrians and Arabs Harran, but lay near the modern village of Eski-Harran, which is about a march of an hour and a half from the ruins known by the name of Harran. The remaining fifty-three inscriptions are nearly all in Syriac, only a few being in Hebrew. The dates range from (probably) the first century of our era down to the sixteenth, but the subject-matter is for the most part of only secondary importance. The editor's remarks and investigations are throughout learned and thorough, and the complete series of facsimiles at the end will be found very useful from a palæographical point of view.

ESSAYS.

The Comments of Bagshot. Edited by J. A. Spender. (Constable & Co.)—We suspect that if Mr. Bagshot had been an Athenian, he would have run great risk of sharing the fate of Aristides. He is always so eminently sane and correct in his judgments that it is hopeless to try to argue against him, while all the time one is conscious of some subtle danger to the republic in his views, or rather, his point of view. We can hardly believe that Aristides was exiled by the Athenians simply because he was just; it was rather because his sense of justice was of such a static character that no conceivable mode of action would have recommended itself to his subtly impartial mind. However, that is mere speculation. What is evident from this book is that Bagshot would kill not only all controversy, but also all action if he were listened to attentively. Well-bred, well-fed, in a comfortable Government post, with no anxiety for the future, unencumbered with a wife, but supported, one may believe, by the sentimental reflection of an

unfortunate love-affair in the past, he has no responsibilities in life worthy of the name, and therefore is prepared with his eupeptic and epigrammatic criticisms on men and women who have such responsibilities. Such men doubtless have their uses in a community: they do their duty conscientiously as long as the work is not too unaccustomed, and suggest difficulties which are a valuable test of new ideas; but in a crisis calling for swift determinations and vigorous action, they would collapse. But though the use of a few such may be admitted, their multiplication would be ruinous to a State. Nothing is done by the man afraid of making a mistake, and Bagshot is obviously one of those whose moderation makes them much more afraid of being thought fools than inclined to heroic action. The fact that we have treated Bagshot so seriously shows that we regard the work which bears his name as of exceptional ability.

On Nothing and Kindred Subjects. By H. Belloc. (Methuen & Co.)—It is doubtful if Mr. Belloc has the requisite lightness of touch to write entertainingly about a broomstick. His sphere lies, we feel convinced, in more ponderous subjects—let us say history. These papers are garnered from journalistic contributions, and in collocation in a volume they are apt to pall. Mr. Belloc has a fantastic mind, and a vein of satire, but he is lacking in a ripe sense of humour. There is something rather pretentious and artificial in his gambolling, for which we are prepared by the tone of his *Dedication* penned in emulation of the writers of an older world. Mr. Belloc's type of humour is well represented therein; it is a rather stilted and intellectual form of facetiousness. One imagines from several of his papers here that he considers himself an adept in life: *nihil humani*, as he might observe. But it is from an odd and somewhat confined point of view that he surveys life. We think he takes himself too seriously, which is one of the reasons why he is out of place in this region of elegant trifling. He has the pose of a sort of melancholy Jacques, a cynic philosopher girding at things. But his methods are not likely to be popular, being too often elusive and abstruse. He will never have the vogue of an agreeable rattle. There are suggestions in these writings which convey hints of esoteric meanings, and are likely to be obscure to the ordinary reader. The book has the air of being designed for a small circle of the elect. It is, however, the work of a clever man.

The Happy Moralist. By Hubert Bland. (Werner Laurie.)—We do not know if Mr. Bland has ever attempted a novel, but certain talents of his suggest that he might find some form of fiction adapted to his pen. His work is characterized by a lightness and a certainty of aim which make it invariably pleasant reading, even when it is most frivolous. It is not generally frivolous, for the author has an intention and a philosophy of life which are frankly serious. But Fabius won his victories by waiting, and it is well to know how to be flippant on occasion in a campaign which is earnest. Mr. Bland is a cynic, but we fancy he would claim to be regarded as an optimistic cynic. Above all, he is the spirit of common sense. He does not expect too much of poor humanity, and he is sorry for it. He would like to expose its follies and point out its weaknesses, but with no other feeling than that of extreme amiability. He is a very tolerant man of the world, and, as a man of the world should, avoids anything but glimpses

at the foundations of life. But this happy moralist is a shrewd critic. He differentiates Mr. Bernard Shaw from Ibsen thus:—

"Now Ibsen's people do things, unconventional things, things which society holds to be immoral even, and to the doing of which it attaches social penalties. Mr. Shaw's people talk about them—and stop short at talking."

The Excursions of Henry Pringle Price. By a Bachelor of Letters. (C. W. Daniel.)

—The 'Excursions' are descriptive of various countries visited by Dr. Pringle Price. The feature of each is that some characteristic of modern civilization is there carried to such an extreme as to dominate the whole life of the community. For instance, in Elwego everything is a matter of business and reduced to system; the inhabitants of San Potanok are slaves of a formal religion and a pharisaical morality; athleticism is the sole interest at Gopolis; theoretical science and pure mathematics are the only standards of value at Extown; while the neighbouring city of Carosia is given up to the journalist and the critic. All are alike in this: that the substance is sacrificed to the form, the real lost in the pursuit of the appearance.

Such a book might amuse by its extravagance or sting by the poignancy of its satire; but if the 'Excursions' are intended to do either, they fail, because two elements are lacking: there is no human nature, and no contrast between capabilities and performance. The enthusiasm of a crowd at a football match, the pedantry of science, the formalism or bigotry of priesthood, afford opportunities for humour or satire just because the actors are human and their vagaries in vivid contrast with the virtues they suggest. In the 'Excursions' exaggeration has robbed the people of the semblance of humanity; they are machines, and machines which consistently fulfil all the functions of which they appear to be capable. Even the narrator is a colourless person, seldom out of sympathy with his surroundings. As a result, neither the pleasant directness of style nor the occasional telling hits can make the book attractive.

BOOKS ON SOCIALISM.

A GREAT number of works are appearing in connexion with present attacks on Socialism, and after dealing with those by Mr. Mallock and Mr. Arnold-Forster, so far as they were suitable for treatment in our pages, we find it unnecessary to notice others at length. Messrs. Archibald Constable & Co. publish a well-written volume on the subject by Mr. H. G. Wells, entitled *New Worlds for Old*. His 'Introductory Remarks' are composed of three quotations, including one from the Duke of Rutland (in language of the most extraordinary violence) on the one side, and one by Lord Milner (at least an equally conspicuous Unionist politician), almost as strong upon the other. Lord Milner is evidently prepared to attack what the Duke of Rutland believes to be "Socialism," but the former sanely judges that the Socialism of practical politics is of the kind which Mr. Wells here defends, and of a large part of which Lord Milner approves. We highly commend the defence of moderate non-revolutionary "Socialism" contained in the first and several of the other chapters of Mr. Wells; but his argument is open to the usual question, "What, then, do you mean by 'Socialism'?" Much that Mr. Wells includes is accepted by all parties in the State. The result of that acceptance is that, as Mr. Wells declares (although in terms too wide), "the world is now a better place for a common man than it ever was

before, the spectacle wider...and more charged with hope and promise." He admits "the Congo" as an exception; but the fact is that there is much deduction to be made from the optimism of Mr. Wells, whether India, China, or Africa as a whole, is viewed as a portion of "the spectacle" presented by "the world." The main objection that may be taken to the work of Mr. Wells is that we took to the last collection of the essays of M. Jaurès, namely, that the title of the best of those essays applies to the picture that Mr. Wells and M. Jaurès paint—'Moonlight.'

Mr. Fisher Unwin publishes *The Socialist Movement in England*, by Mr. Brougham Villiers. His book is more historical and less idealistic than that of Mr. Wells; and a good deal of question may be raised about his history. Mr. Villiers hardly knows the story of the "Victorian Socialism" which he describes. He declares that there is "a complete break in time between... the Socialism of Kingsley and Maurice and that of the Guild of St. Matthew." It is true that the Christian Social organizations have in no case lasted long; but it is not true that they have not shown, among them, a perfect continuity. Two successive Bishops of Durham, for example, neither of them named by Mr. Villiers, kept the torch of Christian Socialism burning in the Anglican Church. F. Denison Maurice is named, but Denison, who sat in the House of Commons, as a Christian Socialist, during the Speakership of his Tory uncle, is not mentioned, although there exist biographies of Denison in which his Christian Socialism is brought out. So, too, of the Socialism of the workman: Odger is not named. Again, the latest years of J. S. Mill are entirely forgotten, although the present land movement owes its birth to Mill's efforts in 1870; while Mill's conversion to free schools, and opposition to Prof. Fawcett's hostile attitude, formed the essential factor in the ultimate adoption of the free school policy. The founding of "The International" in London, at a Conference in which many of the English trade-union leaders took the most active part, is not, we think, even mentioned in the pages of Mr. Villiers; and none of the founders is named in the Index. "Conscious Socialism in the Eighties" should be referred to the Sixties, when Odger's efforts attained a popular recognition greater than that of any similar leader of the Eighties. We have ventured to make these criticisms of a book which otherwise forms a sound and useful introduction to a history of Socialism as it has existed in Great Britain during the last few years.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

TOWARDS the end of 1906 Sir Alfred Jones, who is well known in connexion with numerous financial or commercial ventures in West Africa or the West Indies, invited a large party to go out to Jamaica in the steamship Port Kingston, apparently with the view of bringing public opinion to bear on the development of the trade of the island. Among the guests was Mr. W. Ralph Hall Caine, in the capacity of journalist, with, as he is careful to tell us, the task of communicating his impressions "of a beautiful tropical garden, with especial reference to the growth of cotton on a wide commercial basis, to a syndicate of newspapers, through the agency of my friend, Mr. Arthur Spurgeon."

It is not clearly stated that Mr. Caine's letters as "Our Special Correspondent" are now republished in *The Cruise of the*

Port Kingston (Collier & Co.), but internal evidence shows that they are; or, if not, that they form the basis of the work, which throughout bears the stamp of journalism not always of the best type. The author is surely catering for the newspaper reader when, with an inadequate endowment of knowledge, he devotes several semi-jocular pages to Columbus and his discovery of Jamaica, with "no notion at all of benefiting us"—the English—but, on the contrary, with "gold and gold-mines in his thoughts"; when Penn and Venables, Sir Thomas Modyford, Sir Henry Morgan, and others noted in the history of the island, are dragged in, with a pretence of familiarity that has not always taken the trouble to spell their names right; or when Rodney is described as fighting some unknown battle—"one of the rakingest sea-fights on record"—off Martinique on April 19th, 1782. It is only thus that we can explain the impertinent comments printed concerning the men of the party, or the strange taste which describes the ladies, by name, as "youthful and beautiful," "gracious and handsome," "cultured and kindly," "clever and vivacious." This may be spirited, up-to-date journalism, but it is far indeed from the recognized etiquette of books of travel, and has absolutely nothing to do with what must be considered the main purpose of the volume, as it was of the author's presence on board the *Port Kingston*—the description of the products and commerce of Jamaica. In writing of these he is at his best, and in three interesting chapters describes what he saw and was told of the cultivation and export of bananas, sugar, cotton, coffee, and tobacco. His opinion, necessarily second-hand, is that there is a good opening in the West Indies for young men with some capital—1,500*l.* to 3,000*l.*—"to embark in the cultivation of cotton." "For banana growing less is required; for sugar, more."

For the rest, the book is largely made up of a discussion of the social problem of the West Indies and the commingling of races, which is unreservedly condemned. But whilst we entirely agree with the conclusions put forward, we cannot recognize them as the author's, or admit that a few weeks spent in Jamaica, at a time of the wildest confusion, can constitute him an authority on the vexed question. For his short stay was coincident with the devastation of Kingston by the terrible earthquake of January last year. His descriptions of that are really good; he describes what he saw, or heard of, at first hand, from actual witnesses; and it is well that such an account should be placed on permanent record. But he has done what he could to spoil it by his ex-cathedra pronouncements on the relations of the Governor and the American admiral, which he does not seem to understand now any more than he did then. It is not for us to discuss the question here; we have no intention of attempting to do so, and will only express our regret that Mr. Caine did not preserve a similar reticence. He would have shown better taste if he had contented himself with a brief statement of the facts so far as he knew them, and kept his discussion of the Blue-Book for the newspapers for which he acted.

We are able to recommend *La Rivalité anglo-russe au XIX. Siècle en Asie*, by Dr. Rouire (Paris, Armand Colin). Most of the book has appeared in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, but some of the later parts on the Anglo-Russian agreement are new. No other volume with which we are acquainted gives, on the whole, so impartial an account of both British and Russian

policy in Afghanistan, Persia, Arabia, and Tibet. The author sums up, in a fashion which is fresh and interesting, the gains and losses of the Anglo-Russian Convention as they appear to him when viewed, first from the British side, and then from the Russian. He favours the policy of Sir Edward Grey and the Convention itself, but points out that in Afghanistan, "frequently admitted by Russia without reserve to be wholly within" our "zone of influence," we have "allowed many restrictions to be imposed on" us. Dr. Rouire thinks that we have converted an allied into a neutral State.

Among the few slight errors detected in careful reading we find one not unusual also in English writers: Sir Donald Stewart is not named as the general commanding-in-chief operations attributed to Lord Roberts. There are a few misprints, mostly obvious and unimportant; but some readers will be puzzled by "Gualior" for Guadur.

THE well-known New York newspaper *The World* publishes, under the title *The World*, its almanac for 1908, with additions connected with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first issue of the annual volume. There are many items which differentiate the book from similar works of reference in this country. Two closely printed pages set forth the list of "American women who have married foreign titles." Several pages give "The American Multi-Millionaires." The latter list is far from complete. It contains the moneyed aristocracy represented by the Vanderbilts, the Astors, the Whitneys, and the Lorillards, and adds the Armours and a few other less widely accepted representatives of American wealth. The list of American Societies has a certain historical interest. Most of them are modern, and many of them of mushroom growth; but the Order of the Cincinnati dates from the Peace of 1783, while the Society of Tammany (its democratic rival) was formed at the beginning of the French Revolution in 1789.

REVIEWING in our last number a Parliamentary Paper containing a Report, by Mr. Lister of the Paris Embassy, on the French Colonies, we noted the omission for most purposes of Algeria and of such Protectorates as that of Tunis—commonly called "the most successful of French colonies." The French official *Annuaire Statistique* which has since reached us devotes one of its seven parts to 'Colonies et Pays de protectorat,' and in the tables thus described, under the sub-head 'Ensemble des Pays coloniaux,' the first two and the principal items in each table are those which concern Algeria and Tunis.

Histoire de France.—Vol. VII. Part II. *Louis XIV.* (1643–85). Par Ernest Lavisse. (Paris, Hachette.)—The new volume of this most important history deals with the relationship between Louis and the religious, literary, and artistic movements of his time, and with the external politics of the period, during which he was the most powerful monarch of Europe. English readers will find here a condensed, but clear and interesting explanation of the position of Jansenism, Gallicanism, and Protestantism, terminating with the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. More of them, however, will be interested in the history and criticism of the literature and art of the period. M. Lavisse has something to say of all the great writers of the time, often original, and always well put. One turns to his verdict on Molière: the reader is led "à imaginer un Molière géné par des mœurs, géné par l'Eglise, géné par le Roi, et qui n'a pas sorti tout le poète

dramatique qui était en lui." On the verse of Racine he says:—

"Le ton est presque toujours solennel. Mais la solennité est tempérée par une harmonie continue, qui est le propre de Racine. Cette harmonie dissimule plus d'un vers très médiocre, et ces endroits 'froids et embarrassés' qui fachaient Mme. de Sévigné, mais aussi des beautés, la délicatesse de l'expression et sa hardiesse. Elle berce l'auditeur d'une sonorité très douce; la rime elle-même évite de faire du bruit. Mais, par moments, un trait tragique très bref s'échappe; l'éclair d'un vers découvre un paysage immense; un couplet montre la Grèce assemblée, Troie en ruine, la grandeur de Rome."

He pays due tribute to the great scholars of the time: Mabillon, Baluze, Labbe, Hardouin, Du Cange, Simon, and the Benedictines of St. Maur. Some historical students will not be disposed to accept his account of the policy of the Restoration of Charles II., but as it agrees with that of nearly all our textbooks, he can hardly be blamed for it. Charles was restored, it must be remembered, by a Puritan and mainly Presbyterian Parliament, as a Puritan king, and his earliest measures were Puritan; while those familiar with the literature of the last years of the Commonwealth are aware that some of it was only equalled in depravity during the latest period of Charles's reign.

A Short History of Philosophy. By A. B. D. Alexander. (Glasgow, MacLehose & Sons.)—Mr. Alexander has evidently spent time and trouble over this handbook, and we doubt not that it may prove useful to a certain class of students. At the same time we disagree altogether with the writer when he affirms that "the true introduction to philosophy is its history." If we had our way, we would set the beginner down to one treatise of one philosopher, say the 'Republic' of Plato, and bid him seek to catch therefrom the true spirit of speculation, the impulse "to follow the argument whithersoever it leads." It is time enough at some later stage, when he has learnt to make comparisons for himself and trace back trains of ideas, for him to be conducted systematically through some museum of theories, exhibited, as must always be to some extent the case, in almost complete abstraction from the live theorizing that brought them into being. As for Mr. Alexander's method in particular, the various philosophies he expounds appear to us bereft of life and actuality in a peculiar degree. His is the old-fashioned Hegelian notion of a thought-evolution proceeding more or less *in vacuo* according to some intrinsic law of its own. That the history of philosophy is a necessary logical process, in which the categories of reason have successively emerged into clear consciousness, is a view he considers to be "true in the main." The result is, for instance, such an interpretation of the Pre-Socratics as would cause specialists grave dissatisfaction. Indeed, the whole treatment of ancient philosophies strikes us as uncritical. Shocking misspellings, such as "Hyppias Minor" and "Phædras," suggest that the author may be weak in his Greek. For the modern period, however, Mr. Alexander is more to be trusted, and the sections on German Idealism display a certain measure of sympathetic insight. The history of post-Hegelian speculation is dealt with in bald and meagre fashion, perhaps because his master's clues deserted Mr. Alexander at this point.

Vickers's Newspaper Gazetteer for 1908 preserves its character as a useful book of reference for the press. It has many special features. As showing the progress of motoring, we notice there are now nine weekly papers devoted to the subject.

Boys have seven weekly papers to themselves, and girls two. Electricity has five; golf has two; while cricket has only the same. Looking at the trade journals, we can hardly call to mind a trade not represented. We congratulate the editor upon the care with which the 'Gazetteer' is compiled.

FRANCIS REGINALD STATHAM.

THE death of Mr. Francis Reginald Statham on the 4th inst. removed a singularly interesting personality from the world of letters. He was born in Everton, Liverpool, on February 6th, 1844. In 1868 he published with Messrs. Longman, under the pseudonym of Francis Reynolds, his first book—'Alice Rushton, and other Poems,' of which he committed the contents to memory before he wrote them down. His other poetical works are 'Glaphyra, and other Poems' (1870), 'Eucharis' (1871), and 'Poems and Sonnets' (1895). His poems, several of which were admired by Matthew Arnold, are graceful, and often touched with passion. His sonnet 'Silent Influence'—naïvely anecdotal, yet almost perfectly eloquent—has doubtless given consolation to many who labour with their thought. He had a charming custom of sending to his friends brief lyrics inspired by occasions supposed to be joyous to them.

Mr. Statham was a sound musician, and wrote a large number of songs. He was the composer of the inaugural music for the Kimberley Exhibition which opened in September, 1892; and in 1895 he published with Messrs. Novello a spirited cantata on Vasco da Gama. I was much impressed by the beautiful melody of a setting by him (still in MS.) of Longfellow's 'Lighthouse.'

He was the author of two published novels—the clever South-African satire entitled 'Mr. Magnus' (1896) and 'The Fiery Furnace' (1895). In the latter he showed how, by conscientiousness and healthy combativeness, a person may make a re-entrance into good society without hushing up the act which led to temporary exclusion from it.

As editor of *The Natal Witness* and correspondent of *The Daily Telegraph* and *The Daily News*, he did much journalistic work. Curiously enough, of all he did he attached most importance to his religious lectures in Edinburgh in the early seventies. These lectures anticipated the liberal theology of the Rev. R. J. Campbell, and were intended to formulate some basis of religious belief for persons who had shaken off orthodoxy. His literary style in discourses won enthusiastic praise from Dr. James Martineau.

W. H. C.

THE DERIVATION OF "LONDON."

March 7, 1908.

I HAVE no title nor pretension to join issue with Mr. T. Rice Holmes on the apparently impenetrable enigma of the derivation (or derivations, as I prefer to presuppose of all such uncommunicative and irrevealable words) of "London"; but having always taken an interest in the question, and read all that has ever been written on it, I feel constrained to protest, most respectfully, but unhesitatingly, that nothing the learned author of 'Ancient Britain and the Invasions of Julius Caesar' has advanced in that work, and again put forward in *The Athenæum* of to-day, seems sufficient to me, as an ignoramus, to justify the abandonment of the tentative hypothesis of the source of this the most notable of all unexplained

British place-names in the Welsh words *llyn* and *din*, or some older forms of these words, meaning "water" and "hill"—modified, as I believe, in their immediate topographical application by the name of the Celtic war god (Poseidon-Ares) Nud or Lud, otherwise Nodens or Lodens, a temple to whom is said to have stood where St. Paul's Cathedral now stands, and to have given its enclosure the hieronym, as rendered by Geoffrey of Monmouth, of Cair Lud, the "Lud's town," and "proud London" of Shakespeare.

If "London" was derived from any personal name, Londinos, Londa, &c., surely it would still have been found, changed or unchanged, as a British family name; whereas the British surnames of London, Londoner, Londonish, &c., are every one of them directly derived from London—the city on the hill, lying beside the river Thames, between "the Hounds-ditch" and the brook or ditch of the Fleet, and the fens and moorland north of the Thames.

The Roman transliteration of the contemporary British name of London is unquestionably correct. But it is evident from the writings of Xenophon and Ammianus Marcellinus that the Greeks and Romans of their respective heydeys lived among the Persians, and Syrians, and Egyptians very much as we have lived for now 300 years in India; and in Athenæus alone there is proof enough that the Greeks, and in Pliny the Romans also, had already begun to Hobson-Jobsonize, as we have always done, the Oriental and other alien names of places, persons, and things, both "ad delectionem" and "ad nauseam"; only they had no Sir Henry Yule to collect all these etymological freaks into a comprehensive and systematic 'Glossary.' But as regards London, we know from Ammianus Marcellinus that Augusta was the name the Romans gave to the city "the ancients [of Britain] called Londinium"; and, again, that "Londinium" was the ancient [British] town posterity has named Augusta. This is said in the boastful mood of a Syro-Greek provincial more imperial in his pride of Rome than the Romans themselves; and as a fact, "posterity" in Britain never spoke of Augusta, but ever, and ever more and more, of Londinium, Londonia, Londone, and London; and the persistency with which the "aboriginal" name of London has been preserved through all British, Roman, Anglo-Saxon, and Norman times down to this day, is a proof that the Roman transliteration of it was most closely correct.

This, of course, weakens the plea in favour of *llyn* and *din* being the etymological elements of "London." But how accurately and graphically they describe the ancient British city of Mars Hill by the Thames! and as we may still discern it through all the towns upon towns that have crowded about it, and over all its wide extended suburbs. Its circumsvallation, beginning on the Thames eastward at Tower Hill, ran northward, by Houndsditch, from Aldgate to Bishopsgate; and thence skirted the mixed fenland and moorland, now Finsbury and Moorfields, westward, past Moorgate, to the conning tower or Barbican that guarded Aldersgate; whence it turned southward, along the ridge of Ludgate, down to the Thames at the outfall of the Fleet. In the midst of the city on the hill rose in succession the reputed temple of Lodens, the other reputed temple of Diana, and the old and new Cathedrals of St. Paul. It is an absorbingly picturesque prospect, seen from the high tower at the south-east corner of the National Liberal Club; and

it is visually and accurately focussed in the double derivation of *llyn-din* and Cair-Lud. Beyond the walls, westward, you can still see the ancient Lincoln's Inn Fields and St. Giles's Fields, and the Seven Acres, now Long Acre, and St. Martin's Fields, and the Leicester Fields; and Tothill south-westward, and, northward, wooded Notting Hill.

The permutations of personal and place-names do not proceed on any cut-and-dried philological principles. All kinds of adventitious influences determine them, and particularly folk imagination and folk traditions. Up to my thirty-sixth year I lived half my life in the many-languaged city of Bombay, where I was able to observe the rise and fall of numberless Hobson-Jobsonisms that never became current in literature, and therefore found no place in Sir Henry Yule's glorious 'Glossary.' A very delightful one was *Kulumurumbelumkul*, for "Colonel the Honourable [I forget the "water-name"] Campbell." But more to the present point were the renderings of my "blood-name." My father had the hyacinthine head of hair and the flowing beard of Olympian Zeus, and he was always named Bal-boot (*bal-bhut*), "Hairy-Divinity" — or "Hairy-Devil," according to the emphasis given to the second syllable. I was always a great reader and collector, and the same servants of the very same house, and the same Sepoys in the regimental lines, and, in later life, the same clerks in the public offices, called me Bal-boo (*bala-buddha*), or "Young-sage"—adding behind my back, if offended, an adjective which gave this name the derisive sense of "Wiseacre." I could cite a dozen illustrations of similar pranks of Indian servants, and other dependents, with European proper names; and, of course, they "play the very deuce" with the principles of philology. First these people have to get a form of your name they can pronounce. Next they strive to give it a meaning, and this is decided by something that impresses them in your appearance, habits, or character. If they can give it a double meaning, expressive at one breath of blessing and cursing, they are delighted. Finally, through the meaning or meanings thus breathed into your name, it is mythologized, and yourself with it. All this has happened, over and over again, under my own eyes, and with myself; and after such experiences I never on the first summons, or ever absolutely, surrender myself to purely philological solutions, or, as here, insolutions, of such puzzles as the derivation of London.

GEORGE BIRDWOOD.

EDMONDO DE AMICIS.

THE sudden death at Bordighera on Wednesday of Edmondo de Amicis, removes from the ranks of Italian literature one of its most talented, prolific, and versatile authors. With the exception of Manzoni, Edmondo de Amicis was the most extensively read Italian author of the last three-quarters of a century.

Born at Oneglia on October 21st, 1846, and of a family which originally came from Genoa, De Amicis studied at Coni in Piedmont, went to the Candellero Institute at Turin, and later to the military school at Modena, which he left in 1865. When the war of 1866 broke out he was a sub-lieutenant, and was present at the disastrous battle of Custoza, and took part in the campaign which followed. After the war he took up literary work, and in 1867 was at Florence, editing *Italia Militare*. It was in this periodical that he first made his mark

by contributing to it 'La Vita militare: Bozzetti,' published in book form in 1868. These sketches immediately achieved great success, edition after edition being printed and published at a low price. An illustrated issue, the work of a number of Italian artists, appeared in 1891. With the unification of Italy, De Amicis retired from the army, and devoted himself exclusively to literary work and travels. He visited Spain, Morocco, Holland, London, Paris, Constantinople, and South America, and in each case published a record of his observations. Some of these records were first issued in unostentatious style, and afterwards elaborated into imposing volumes with illustrations by the best Italian artists; in all cases they achieved great popularity, varying from five to ten or more editions. English editions have been published of the books on Constantinople, Holland, Morocco, and Spain, although the 'Ricordi di Londra' (1877), which is scarcely more than a pamphlet, and quickly ran into five editions, has apparently not yet been done into English. De Amicis was one of our special correspondents, contributing for several years an article on Italian Literature.

His greatest success was his 'Cuore Libro per i Ragazzi,' which in a few years ran into nearly 200 editions. Of this an elaborately illustrated edition was published in 1892. Another of his books, 'Il Romanzo d'un Maestro,' first published in 1892, went in two years into twelve editions, and has been translated into English. His 'Novelle,' first published in 1872, and 'Pagine Sparse,' were also widely circulated. But to enumerate all the books by De Amicis which have been constantly reprinted would involve a bibliographical list of his works.

Successful as a novelist, essayist, and descriptive writer, De Amicis also ranks as a poet. His volume of poetry published in 1882, consists almost entirely of sonnets, and the series of 'La Guerra' reveals effectively the horrors of war.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Bain (J. A.), The Developments of Roman Catholicism, 2/6.
Fénelon (Archbishop), Meditations for a Month, 1/ net.
In Heart and Life Booklets.
Gibson (J. M.), The Inspiration and Authority of Holy Scripture, 2/6 net.
Howard (H.), The Shepherd Psalm, 1/ net.
Lives of St. Francis of Assisi, by Brother Thomas of Celano, 5/ net. Translated by A. G. Ferrers Howell.
Luther (M.), Letters, 12/ net. Selected and translated by Margaret A. Currie.
Mackay (J. J.), Recent Letters of Christ, 2/6 net.
Messianic Hope of the Samaritans, by Jacob, Son of Aaron, 1/. Translated from the Arabic by A. B. Kor, edited, with an Introduction by W. E. Barton.
Mills (Dr. L. H.), Avesta Eschatology compared with the Books of Daniel and Revelations. Supplementary to the author's 'Zarathushtra, Philo, the Achemenids, and Israel.'
Roberts (J. E.), Private Prayers and Devotions, 2/6 net.
Smith (M. R.), Common-Sense in Religion, 2/ net.
Some Answered Questions, 4/ net. Collected and translated from the Persian of 'Abdu 'l-Baha, by Laura C. Barney.

Law.

- Lely (J. M.) and Aggs (W. H.), Chitty's Statutes, 1902-7, Vol. XV., 42/
Fine Art and Archaeology.
Culvert (A. F.), Murillo, 1/6 net. In the Langham Series of Art Monographs.
Eve (G. W.), Decorative Heraldry, 6/ net. A handbook of the artistic treatment of heraldry. Second Edition.
Progress Report of the Archaeological Survey of India, Western Circle, for the Year ending 31st March, 1907, 3d.
'Studio' Year-Book of Decorative Art, 1908, 5/ net.
Temple (A. G.), Modern Spanish Painting, 105/ net. A review of some of the chief painters and paintings of the Spanish School since Goya.
Watson (W. C.), Portuguese Architecture, 25/ net. Illustrated.

Poetry and Drama.

- Doughty (C. M.), Adam Cast Forth, 4/6 net. A sacred drama in five songs, founded on a Judeo-Arabian legend of Adam and Eve.
Harte (Bret), Poems, 1/ net. In the Muses' Library.
Lucas (St. J.), New Poems, 5/ net.

- Marks (K. J.), English Pastoral Drama, 5/ net. Extends from the Restoration to the publication of the 'Lyrical Ballads' (1660-1798).
Miles (G. H.), Christine, a Troubadour's Song; The Sleep of Mary; Amin, 4/6 net.—A Review of Hamlet, 4/6 net. New Edition.
Montgomery (A. V.), The Rose and the Fire, 7/6 net.
Ralli (A.), The Morning of Life, 5/ net.
Sacred Poets of the Nineteenth Century: Plumptre to Image, 1/6 net. Edited by Alfred H. Miles.
Wetherald (E.), The Last Robin: Lyrics and Sonnets.

Music.

- Hymns Ancient and Modern for Use in the Services of the Church, 5/ net. New Edition, the tunes transposed into a lower key.
Parthenia; or, the First Music ever printed for the Virginals, composed by W. Byrd, J. Bull, and O. Gibbons, 21/

Bibliography.

- Catalogue of Books annotated and arranged and provided by the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh for the Use of the First Eight Grades of the Pittsburgh Schools.
Gladstone Library, National Liberal Club: Catalogue of Books and Pamphlets.
Layton's Handy Newspaper List, 1908, 6d.

Political Economy.

- Sellers (Edith), Foreign Solutions of Poor-Law Problems, 2/6 net.

History and Biography.

- Dickson Manuscripts, Series C, 1809-18, Chap. III. (for the Year 1811), 2/6. Edited by Major J. H. Leslie.
Dictionary of National Biography: Vol. I. Abbadie-Beadon, 15/ net. New Edition. For notice of former edition see *Athen.*, Jan. 10, 1885, p. 43.
Düntzer (H.), Life of Goethe, 2/6 net. Popular Edition. Translated by T. W. Lyster.
Fishwick (Lieut.-Col.), The History of the Parish of Lytham in the County of Lancaster. Vol. LX. of the Chetham Society's New Series.
Green (J. R.), A Short History of the English People, Vol. I., 9/6 net. Illustrated Edition.
Hamel (F.), Famous French Salons, 12/6 net. With 20 illustrations.
Macpherson (H.), A Century of Political Development, 3/6 net.
Memoirs of a Lady Dentist and her Experiences in the East, by Khush-Amel, 6/
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Ramsay (Sir J. H.), The Dawn of the Constitution; or, the Reigns of Henry III. and Edward I. (1216-1307), 12/. With maps and illustrations.
Ranke (L. von), The History of the Popes during the Last Four Centuries, 3 vols., 3/6 each. Mrs. Foster's translation, revised in accordance with the latest German edition by G. R. Dennis.
Records of Stirring Times, by the Authoress of 'Old Days in Diplomacy,' 10/ net. Based upon unpublished documents from 1726 to 1822, edited by M. Montgomery-Campbell, and illustrated.
Smith (V. A.), The Early History of India, from 600 B.C. to the Muhammadan Conquest, including the Invasion of Alexander the Great, 14/ net. Second Edition. For former notice see *Athen.*, Dec. 17, 1904, p. 834.
Visitation of England and Wales, Vol. XIV. Edited by F. A. Crisp.
Webb (S. and B.), English Local Government from the Revolution to the Municipal Corporations Act: The Manor and the Borough, 2 vols., 25/ net. For review of the former section of the subject see *Athen.*, Jan. 26, 1907, p. 95.
Welsh Political and Educational Leaders in the Victorian Era, 16/. Edited by the Rev. J. V. Morgan, with portraits.

Sports and Pastimes.

- Burns (T.), Scientific Boxing and Self-Defence, 5/ net.
Cameron (L. C. R.), Otters and Otter-Hunting, 5/ net. Illustrated.

Philology.

- Æschylus, The Eumenides, 10/ net. With an Introduction, commentary, and translation by A. W. Verrall.
Classical Association, Proceedings, 1907, Vol. V., 2/6 net. With rules and list of members.
Drake (A. E.), Discoveries in Hebrew, Gaelic, Gothic, Anglo-Saxon, Latin, Basque, and other Caucasian Languages, 25/ net. Aims at showing the fundamental kinship of the Aryan tongues and of Basque, with the Semitic tongues.
Pitman's International Mercantile Letters: English-French, 2/6.

School-Books.

- Bell's English Texts for Secondary Schools: Reader's The Cloister and the Hearth, edited by the Rev. A. E. Hall; Scott's A Legend of Montrose, edited by F. C. Luckhurst, 1/ each.
Bennett (A. M.), Play-Drill, 1/6. A series of physical movements for young children, words and music by Alice L. A. Hands, illustrated.
Conington (J.), The Æneid of Virgil translated into English Verse, 2/6 net. New Edition.
Jaccard (C. A.), Key to Exercises in Seipmann's Primary French Course, Part II., 3/6 net.
More's Utopia, translated by R. Robinson, 2/6 net. Edited by David Salmon, with Introduction, notes, examination questions, and index.
Readings in English History from Original Sources, Book III., 2/6. Edited by R. B. Morgan and E. J. Bailey.
Selections from Dryden, 2/6. Chosen and edited by G. E. Hadow.
Stall (Dr. S.), Five-Minute Object Sermons to Children, through Eye-Gate and Ear-Gate into the City of Child-Soul, 4/ net. New Edition.
Thomas (C.) and Hervey (W. A.), A German Reader and Theme Book, 4/6.

Science.

- Bardswell (N. D.) and Chapman (J. E.), Diets in Tuberculosis, 6/ net. In the Oxford Medical Publications.
Davidson (J. B.) and Chase (L. W.), Farm Machinery and Farm Motors, 10/ net.

- Diseases of the Nervous System, 23/ net. Edited by A. Church.
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Kolbe (Bruno), An Introduction to Electricity, 10/6 net.
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- Proceedings of the United States National Museum, Reprints: North American Parasitic Copepods, by C. B. Wilson; A Review of the Flatheads, &c., of the Waters of Japan, by D. S. Jordan and R. E. Richardson; Infrabasal in Recent Genera of the Crinoid Family Pentacrinidae, by A. H. Clark; New Species of Flying Lizard, by L. Stejneger; New Freshwater Bivalve (Comesocyclas), by P. Bartsch; The Crinoid Genus Comatulula, Lamarck, by A. H. Clark; On some Locopods of the Family Dajidae, by Harriet Richardson.

- Railway Shop up to Date, 12/6 net. Compiled by the Editorial Staff of 'The Railway Master Mechanic.'
Rosenhain (W.), Glass Manufacture, 6/ net. In the Westminster Series.

- Saint Bartholomew's Hospital Reports, Vol. XLIII. Edited by H. Morley Fletcher and W. McAdam Eccles.
Skinner (F. W.), Types and Details of Bridge Construction, Part III., 12/6 net.

- Spon's Architects' and Builders' Price-Book, 1908, 3/6.
Trotman (S. R.), Leather Trades Chemistry, 15/ net. A practical manual on the analysis of materials, &c.
White (W. F.), A Scrap-Book of Elementary Mathematics, 5/ net.

- Winslow (K.), The Production and Handling of Clean Milk, 10/6 net.

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- Æsop's Fables, 5/. Translated by G. F. Townsend. Illustrated by Harrison Weir.
Conant (M. F.), The Oriental Tale in England in the Eighteenth Century, 2 vols. net.
Fairlie (J. A.), Essays in Municipal Administration, 10/6 net.
Hindustan Review, February, 3 annas.
Lewis (G. R.), The Stannaries, 6/ net. A study of the English tin miners.
Mackenzie (V. St. Clair), The Modern Balance Sheet, 2/6 net. An analysis of company finance, with historical chapters by A. Paulbrook.
People's Library: Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility; Andersen's Fairy Tales; Barham's Ingoldsby Legends; Burns's Poems and Songs; Fenimore Cooper's Deer-slayer; Dickens's Barnaby Rudge, and Oliver Twist; Dumas's Three Musketeers; Goldsmith's Vicar of Wakefield; Lytton's Last of the Barons; Shakespeare's Works, 4 vols.; Mrs. Henry Wood's The Channings, 82/ net each.
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'Shipping World' Year-Book, 1908, 6/ net.
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Pamphlets.

- Bigelow (J.), The Panama Canal and the Daughters of Danaus.
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Henderson (H. A.), Shall We tolerate the Jesuits? 3d. net. A political question. Second Edition.
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Shelley's View of Poetry. A lecture delivered by Prof. A. C. Bradley. Leaflet No. 4 of the English Association.

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Theology.

- Jastrow (M.), jun., Die Religion Babylonien und Assyrien, Part XII., 1m. 50.

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- Bartholdy (A. M.), Das Imperium des Richters, 6m. A study of recent English law.
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- Archæology.*
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 Muckle (F.), Henri de Saint-Simon: Die Persönlichkeit u. ihr Werk, 8m.
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 Arnaud (R.), L'Égerie de Louis Philippe: Adélaïde d'Orléans, 1777-1847, 5fr.
 Franklin (A.), La Civilité: l'Étiquette, la Mode, le Bon Ton du troisième au dix-neuvième Siècle, Vol. II., 5fr.
 Grandmaison (G. de), L'Espagne et Napoléon, 1804-9, 7fr. 50.
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 Revue historique, Mars—Avril, 6fr.
 Vialay (A.), La Vente des Biens nationaux pendant la Révolution française, 5fr.
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 Épinoy (K. d'), Amour et Dot, 3fr. 50.
 Maurey (M.) et Jubin (G.), Les Aventures de Monsieur Haps! 3fr. 50.
 Meunier-Surcouf (Madame), La Maison morte, 3fr. 50.
Pamphlets.
 Carlyle et le Saint-Simonisme, Lettres à Gustave d'Eichthal. Reprinted from the Revue historique.
 * All Books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending Books.

Literary Gossip.

A MEMOIR of Field-Marshal Sir Henry Wylie Norman by Sir William Lee-Warner, K.C.S.I., with two portraits, will be published immediately by Messrs. Smith & Elder. No one else who survived the siege of Delhi took part in so many further campaigns and engagements until the Mutiny was quelled; and Norman's letters and recollections should be of great value.

A NEW novel by the author of 'Miss Molly' entitled 'Dan Riach, Socialist,' will be published by the same firm in the course of a few days. It is a story of English manufacturing life, turning upon the situation that the rich young pupil of the Socialist propagandist ceases to believe in the sufficiency of his teacher's doctrines, and, on succeeding to his father's mill, comes into active collision with Riach.

MR. R. C. LEHMANN's fresh instalment of 'Memories of Half-a-Century' in *Chambers's Journal* for April refers to Thackeray, and includes letters by Lord Houghton, Charles Reade, and James Payn. Sir Alexander Muir Mackenzie contributes a paper on 'Volunteering in Perthshire a Hundred Years Ago'; Mr. F. Cowley Whitehouse, of Constantinople, relates what happened during 'A Week amongst Brigands'; and Mr. Byron T. Prideaux writes on 'Pitcairn Island and its People.'

MRS. BASIL HOLMES, the author of 'London Burial-Grounds,' has written a work on Twyford under the title 'West Twyford: Notes on the History of the Parish from the Time of Domesday

Survey.' It will give much fresh information, derived from old estate maps, manorial rolls, and the study of place-names, and is illustrated by several rare reproductions and facsimiles of Twyford Abbey and other local buildings. The work is to be published by Mr. Elliot Stock immediately.

THE third volume of Prof. Oman's 'History of the Peninsular War' deals with the period from Wellington's arrival at Badajoz on his retreat from Talavera (September 3rd, 1809) to the deadlock in front of Santarém (December, 1810), which marked the end of Masséna's offensive campaign in Portugal. The campaigns of Bussaco and Torres Vedras are explained in detail; and the volume includes a number of maps, plans, and illustrations.

'THE STORY OF THE GUIDES,' by Col. G. J. Younghusband, which will be published this month by Messrs. Macmillan & Co., recounts the most notable achievements of the famous Indian regiment from its foundation by Lawrence and Lumsden in 1846 to the Malakand Expedition of 1897.

A VOLUME of literary and biographical studies by Mr. James Baker, with a wide range of subjects, will shortly be published by Messrs. Chapman & Hall. It will include articles on 'Tom Macaulay' (with unpublished letters), 'R. D. Blackmore,' 'Friedrich von Bodenstedt,' 'Heine's Memoirs,' 'Shakspeare's Mind Scenes,' and 'A Chat with Verestschagin.'

To the April number of *The Dublin Review* Dr. William Barry, henceforth to be styled Canon Barry, contributes an article on 'Rome and Democracy'; the editor, Mr. Wilfrid Ward, will write on 'Mr. Balfour on Decadence'; Mr. Hilaire Belloc, M.P., on 'Inflation of Assessment'; Mr. W. S. Lilly on 'The Orthodox Eastern Church'; Mr. Percy Fitzgerald on 'The Worldly Wisdom of Thomas à Kempis'; and Dr. Windle on 'Stonehenge and the Stars.'

THE S.P.C.K. are publishing in May next 'Scandinavian Britain,' by W. G. Collingwood, with introductory chapter by F. York Powell; 'The Old Testament in the Light of the Historical Records and Legends of Assyria and Babylonia,' by Dr. T. G. Pinches, a third edition, revised and enlarged; 'The Epistle to Diognetus,' by the Rev. L. B. Radford; and 'Domesday Book,' by Dr. de Gray Birch, a second edition, revised.

THE UNIVERSITY of MANCHESTER will publish the work by the late Prof. Strachan on mediæval Welsh grammar, which was in an advanced condition at his death. The text will be revised by Prof. Kuno Meyer, and a glossary will be prepared by Mr. T. Lewis in consultation with him.

It appears from a Parliamentary Paper published last week that 31,998l. have been paid, and 609l. received by the State, on the official history of the South African War, before the completion of the "work" was "transferred" by the War Office to the Defence Committee.

It is good to hear that Mr. Barrie is soon to break his literary silence with a new book. The title said to have been chosen, 'When Wendy Grew Up,' indicates the nature of its contents.

MESSRS. HUTCHINSON & Co. announce the immediate publication of a new story entitled 'Neither Storehouse nor Barn,' by the popular Welsh novelist Allen Raine.

ALTHOUGH the choice library of the late Dr. John Gott, Bishop of Truro, which Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge will sell on Friday and Saturday next, has been shorn of some of its rarities (nearly all the Shakspeare Quartos, for instance, have been sold privately), there remains sufficient to render the sale one of the most important of the season. It comprises a fine set of the four Shakspeare Folios; the first Quarto edition of 'The Merchant of Venice,' 1600; a perfect copy (apparently unique) of 'The Golden Legend,' printed by Caxton in 1483, with the 'Life of St. Thomas of Canterbury,' which is nearly always missing; and a most desirable example of the 'Biblia Pauperum,' ante 1450, the first edition, according to Heineken. The series of early printed Bibles includes examples of Coverdale's 1535 and Cromwell's 1539. The various editions of the Book of Common Prayer and other rare liturgies form a considerable portion of the second day's sale.

The author of 'Leaves from a Life' writes:—

"While thanking you sincerely for your most kind review of 'Leaves from a Life,' may I point out three or four errors made by your reviewer?

"I state my father's last big commission was for 10,000l., not that his picture in the Tate Gallery brought him in that sum. The picture was, alas I never executed, but the contract was signed by himself and Mr. Gambart, and was to be for three pictures called 'The Streets of London,' morning, evening, and night.

"The motto from Shakespeare I copied from my edition of Shakespeare: it is the one in 3 vols. published in 1862 by H. Staunton.

"Mr. Deutsch's name was Oscar Emanuel. He and I both disliked the name of Emanuel, and the letters (two) I still possess of his are signed Oscar Deutsch (1868).

"Is not Alexandria in the East?"

We are sorry to have misapprehended the meaning of the author, whose style does not tend to clearness of expression. No text of authority reads, and no critic, so far as we are aware, has conjectured, in the passage of 'Othello' cited:—

nothing extenuate,
 Nor set aught down in malice.

The words we italicize should be transposed. The reviewer was an intimate friend of Emanuel Deutsch, and "Emanuel Deutsch" is on the title-page of his 'Literary Remains,' which were edited by another intimate friend. The last question our readers may answer as they please; we have not expressed any view.

SIR CONAN DOYLE will preside at the eighteenth Readers' Dinner, to be held at the Holborn Restaurant on Saturday,

May 2nd. Thanks to the liberal support received from all sections of the world of letters, the Readers' Pensions Committee (of which Lord Glenesk has been President from the beginning) has been enabled to found four pensions, at a cost of just over two thousand pounds; and the donations at the forthcoming dinner will be devoted to establishing a fifth.

MR. ALFRED AUSTIN'S new volume, 'Sacred and Profane Love, and other Poems,' will be published by Messrs. Macmillan & Co. immediately after Easter.

THE death was announced on Tuesday last of Mr. Charles Henderson Scott, who was for more than fifty years connected with *The Morning Post*. Mr. Scott took a leading part in establishing the Newspaper Press Fund, and had been from the first a member of its Council, a position he resigned as recently as last month.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN'S forthcoming 'Guide to Greece, the Archipelago, Constantinople, the Coasts of Asia Minor, Crete, and Cyprus,' is a thoroughly revised edition of the volume formerly issued as a 'Guide to the Eastern Mediterranean.' The text has been revised by such experts as Mr. D. G. Hogarth, Prof. van Millingen, the Director of the British School at Athens, Dr. Evans, and Mrs. Ernest Gardner, while Prof. Ernest Gardner has contributed an entirely new chapter on Greek art. The book has been brought up to date in the matter of hotels, railways, and other facilities of travel; and new maps of Greece and of Asia Minor, and plans of Cnossus, Sparta, &c., have been added.

MESSRS. CHATTO & WINDUS regret to announce that, although Mr. Herbert P. Horne's newly designed Florence Press fount is now cast, it has proved impossible to decipher the MS. 'Dialogus Johannis Ottobi Anglici in Arte Musica,' an *editio princeps* of which was to have formed a "trial issue" in the new type. Pending Mr. Horne's return to Florence and the selection of a new rarity for the trial impression, the publishers are proceeding with the setting of the first Florence Press book, 'The Fioretti of S. Francis.'

THE SCOTTISH RECORD SOCIETY reports that during last year there was issued to members the 'Protocol Book of Gavin Ros, Notary, Ayr (1512-1532),' edited by the Rev. John Anderson and Mr. F. J. Grant; and the 'Register of Baptisms in the Chapels of Birnie and Tillydesk (1763-1801),' edited by Mr. John MacGregor. The Index of the Register of Marriages for the City Parish of Edinburgh, 1700-50, is to be continued, and will be edited by Mr. Henry Paton, of the Register House. Other works in progress are an Index to Genealogies and Funeral Entries in the Lyon Office, and the Register of Burials at Restalrig, beginning in 1727. There are now 133 members of the Society, including 33 libraries and public institutions.

THE summer meeting of University Extension students at Cambridge will

be held a fortnight earlier than in previous years. Part I. will extend from July 18th to 31st, and Part II. from July 31st to August 13th. The main subject of study will be 'Ancient Greece.' Part I. will deal with a period ending with the battles of Salamis and Plataea; Part II. with later periods, beginning with 478 B.C. An attractive series of lectures is promised. Other sections announced are Natural Science, Education, Social Economics, Courses for Foreign Students, and Theology.

MRS. BEVERIDGE, who has long been at work on the Turki text of Babar's memoirs, is engaged in revising the English translation of Erskine and Leyden (which we refer to elsewhere to-day) in the light of the rediscovered Elphinstone MS., the Haidarabad codex, of which she published a facsimile in 1905, and Dr. Kehr's copy in the Foreign Office Library at St. Petersburg, which she has carefully collated.

AT Paris a number of graduates of the École des Chartes have formed themselves into a group under the title of "Le Document," for the purpose of facilitating and executing research in history, bibliography, genealogy, &c. The director of the scheme is M. L. Jacob, 17, Rue de Sévigné, Paris; and it includes a photographer and a draughtsman.

THREE vacant chairs at the Académie Française were filled on Thursday in last week, the new members all being men who have served a long apprenticeship to literature. To the fauteuil of Berthelot, M. Francis Chalmes, the editor of the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, succeeded without a rival, and his election is noteworthy from the fact that since the death of Edouard Hervé he is the first journalist pure and simple to be elected to the Académie. For the seat of André Theuriot there were three candidates: M. Jean Richepin, M. Henri de Régnier, and M. Haraucourt; and at each of the four ballots the first named was at the head, and finally obtained 18 votes, against 8 and 6 cast for his two competitors, thus verifying the forecast of our Parisian correspondent. For the seat of Sully-Prudhomme there were four candidates; but at the second ballot 17 votes were given for M. Henri Poincaré, the distinguished mathematician, against 10 for his nearest opponent, M. Charles de Pomairols, and M. Poincaré was declared elected.

THE death in Paris last week, at the age of seventy-five, of Camille Weinschenk removes a well-known journalist. Weinschenk was the founder and *administrateur* of the unregenerate *Gil Blas*, which has within recent years been transformed into a serious political daily, whilst the weekly supplement, *Gil Blas illustrée*, with its unconventional illustrations by Forain and others, was entirely suppressed. Weinschenk was also at one time the director of the Anti-English *National*, which long since ceased, and the director of the Gaité and the Cluny theatres. For nearly thirty years he daily occupied the

same seat at the Café Américain, summer and winter, holding journalistic, financial, and other receptions, and formulating great schemes.

It is perhaps characteristic of the lofty indifference to the preservation of our national MSS. which has frequently been the subject of unfavourable comment that in a recent case before the Courts, concerning the safe custody of the heirlooms of one of the great official families of the eighteenth century, no assurance has been given respecting the condition of an important collection made known to students through the good offices of the Historical MSS. Commission. The value of heirlooms in the shape of furniture, china, and pictures is no doubt considerable; but the safety of unique historical MSS. is after all of greater moment. If such treasures are not to be regarded as heirlooms, then indeed the labour of the admirable Historical MSS. Commission is but in vain.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"On August 10th, 1404, Henry IV. wrote privately to the head of the State which was then our great maritime and commercial rival, requesting him as a token of friendship to facilitate the purchase of some of the famous gear of Venice to rig 'certain great ships' then building in England. Now on August 9th the Venetian Senate had been anxiously considering a dispatch from the fleet of merchantmen in Flanders, reporting that it dare not return through the Channel because of the English 'armada' off Sandwich. Nevertheless, the English King's request seems to have been granted as a matter of course, just as the English and Venetian sailors would have fought as a matter of course. With all its shortcomings we can still learn something from the civilization of the Middle Ages, the age of chivalry which is past."

THE death, at the age of fifty-six, is reported from Belgrade of Simo Matavulj, the author of a number of stories giving an excellent picture of life in Montenegro, Dalmatia, and Herzegovina, and of several dramas.

THE HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN HOUSE at Odense, recently arranged to contain memorials of the great writer, will be opened to the public on the 2nd of April, his birthday.

WE note the publication of the following Parliamentary Papers likely to be of interest to our readers: Report of the Consultative Committee of the Board of Education upon the Question of Devolution by County Education Authorities (4d.); List of Public Elementary Schools and Certified Efficient Schools in England, excluding Monmouthshire, on 1st Aug., 1907 (3s. 4d.); Code of Regulations for Day Schools, Scotland (3d.); Minute of the Committee of Council on Education in Scotland, providing for the Distribution of the General Aid Grant (1d.); Supplementary Regulations for Secondary Schools in Wales including Monmouthshire (4d.); and Index and Digest of Evidence to the Report from the Select Committee on Publications (1d.).

SCIENCE

BOOKS ON BIRDS.

The Home-Life of some Marsh-Birds. By Emma L. Turner and P. H. Bahr. (Witherby & Co.)—This book demonstrates conclusively the scientific possibilities of bird-photography, which are frequently treated as of secondary importance to the making of a picture. At the same time many of these delightful photographs dealing with the domestic economy of some of our shiest birds are second to none in pictorial effect. Many successful studies have recently been made by other photographers of the great crested grebe, but Miss Turner has here given us a series as complete as it is unrivalled. She took the fullest advantage of an extraordinary piece of good luck in finding a coot and a great crested grebe occupying nests within eighteen inches of each other, and tells us that for ten days she spent eight hours a day in their company, or awaiting it. As, owing to a strong wind, she was at no time able to give an exposure longer than 1-500th of a second, her results are marvellous. The male frequently added fresh material to the nest, and Miss Turner suggests that the damp and decaying reeds kept up the heat of the nest to such a temperature that the eggs did not suffer even when the birds refused to return for five or six hours. The picture of the three chicks, with their curious zebra markings extending to the bill itself, is exceptionally good; even one three-lobed foot is obligingly displayed. As was to be expected, the opportunities for interesting observations at such close quarters were numerous, and one passage will show how carefully Miss Turner records what she has seen:—

"I was much interested in one favourite trick of the parent bird. He would pick up a small contour feather, dip it in water, shake it in front of the chick, swimming rapidly to and fro and uttering encouraging cries as he did so. As feathers are found in the gizzards of great crested grebes instead of stones, it may be that the young birds are thus early taught to swallow them for digestive purposes, though I cannot say that I actually saw the baby grebe do this; and from the excited manner of the parent when coaxing him, possibly the young grebe, in common with the youth of other species, objects to doing things 'for his good.'"

In a chapter on the common snipe Mr. Bahr supplements his photographs with instructive text illustrations in support of his contention that the "bleating" is produced by the vibration of the two outer feathers of the tail—a fact which, as he remarks, was really proved more than fifty years ago, though often disputed since. The process is explained convincingly, and it is remarked that it is found in both sexes.

His account of the red-throated diver contains much that is new, including pictures of some of the remarkable attitudes adopted by this bird and the queer contortions that seemed to betoken uneasiness. "When a raven or gull passed over," he says, "the sitting bird and her attendant mate extended their necks, becoming by this simple procedure well-nigh invisible."

The inevitable chapter on bearded tits contains illustrations of the conspicuous palate-markings of the young birds, a subject which is beginning to attract some attention from ornithologists. Following this we find three excellent photographs of the reed-warbler, the sedge-warbler, and the grasshopper warbler, at their respective nests.

The last chapter, contributed by Mr.

Bahr, on a colony of black-headed gulls on an island in a Hebridean loch, is full of interest, and contains some beautiful photographs, one of the most charming being that of a group of some fifteen baby gulls huddled together on a stone just out of the water. The infant mortality is shown to be surprisingly large from a variety of causes, and unfortunately is greatly increased by the advent of a peaceful visitor, because the nervous youngsters take to the water at the first hint of danger, frequently with fatal consequences.

None of the thirty-two plates is lacking in value as a pictorial record, but a small proportion are too much under-exposed to give a satisfactory photograph, and we confess that we were at first unable to make head or tail of the water-rail on her nest.

We may add that the letterpress is not weighted by "book" descriptions of the species under discussion, and everything said is well said.

Birds of the Loch and Mountain. By Seton P. Gordon. (Cassell & Co.)—The lonely grandeur of the Scottish mountains has always exercised a strong fascination on those who love Nature at her wildest, but few naturalists can be better qualified to tell of the secrets that they hold than Mr. Gordon, who knows them intimately at every season of the year and every hour of the day or night. His experiences make a simple, straightforward narrative, and only incidentally do we get glimpses of the difficulties that had to be overcome; indeed, he speaks of himself as having been "exceptionally fortunate," which is a rare admission for any bird-photographer to make. Every page is full of information gleaned at first hand, and there are no digressions of any sort. Twenty-one species have been chosen as representative of the bird life of loch and mountain, and in this select company it seems a little strange to find the familiar bullfinch and the willow-warbler. But Mr. Gordon points out that frequently in close proximity to the golden eagle's eyrie many of these songbirds are found in great numbers, and here he cultivated the acquaintance of a hen bullfinch so successfully that she would take hemp seed from his lips to feed her young in the nest; birch catkins, however, formed their principal diet.

To pass to nobler game, the chapter dealing with golden eagles will perhaps attract the most attention, being particularly instructive and illustrated by a splendid series of photographs, showing the growth of the eaglet at different stages of its babyhood. Fortunately for the photographer, the eyrie is generally in an easily accessible position. The accounts of the capercaillie and the ptarmigan have appeared in print before. The author is certainly to be congratulated on his admirable study of the latter; among many interesting observations, he tells us that during an ascent of Ben Muich Dhui last April he noticed that at about the 3,000-foot line the ptarmigan were changing to their summer plumage, but that those near the summit were, for the most part, still spotlessly white. Many pitiful instances are given where these birds of the wilds—ptarmigan, golden plover, ring ousel, dipper, and curlew—have been hopelessly snowed out at the breeding season. Mr. Gordon comments on the curious fact that when once the migrants from the shore, such as curlew and oystercatcher, have arrived at their summer quarters, they may be reduced to the verge of starvation by a return of wintry weather, and never seem to have any idea of descending to the coast

again, where plenty could always be obtained after an hour's flight.

A good deal of illegal destruction of bird life, by shot or by poison, is brought home to the keepers, who are in no way deterred by any Wild Birds' Protection Acts. The annihilation of whole colonies of black-headed gulls, on suspicion of purloining the eggs of game-birds, seems particularly ill judged; as a testimonial to their usefulness he quotes a farmer who attributed the excellence of his oat crops to the fact that "them white beasts eats up a' the grubs." A peregrine's eyrie which Mr. Gordon had under observation was the scene of a tragedy only too common, and a photograph shows the silent evidence of the beautiful eggs scattered by the falcon as she writhed in her death agony. Fortunately, the golden eagle is accorded a large measure of protection, and the havoc that he makes among the grouse is accounted to him for righteousness in deer forests, for these birds invariably give warning of the approach of the stalker.

In the case of only one-third of the species under discussion is Mr. Gordon able to give illustrations of the adult birds, and among these the goosander is not particularly successful; but he has secured some excellent photographs of the young in many instances, as well as of the nests; a good deal of space, moreover, is reasonably apportioned to pictures of the characteristic haunts of his subjects. The paper, printing, and binding of the book are all that any author could desire. It is to be hoped that Mr. Gordon will in time produce a second series under the same title, which might include such fine birds as the osprey, raven, dotterel, divers, greater black-backed gull, red-breasted merganser, and the skuas.

In one small particular our personal experience does not confirm the author's observation. Of the curlew it is remarked: "The hen always flies right off the nest, and does not, like the golden plover and most ground-nesting birds, run for some distance first." In the course, however, of four consecutive hours spent within 12 ft. of a curlew's nest, it was observed that, at the first hint of danger and without any warning from the male bird, she rose hastily to a crouching position and quietly zigzagged away a considerable distance before taking wing; and this occurred many times, as a lane ran within 150 yards of the nest.

The Birds of the British Islands. Part VIII. By Charles Stonham. (E. Grant Richards.)—This part, which completes the second volume of this work, is concerned principally with the owls. Here we have a subject which seems to lend itself to delicate pencil-work, and Miss Medland has scored another success. It is perhaps to be regretted that Tengmalm's owl and the scops-owl, being classed as "rare and accidental," do not appear in the portrait gallery: on the other hand, a plate is assigned to the engaging "little" owl, which could hardly have been placed on the visiting list were it not for persistent introduction, but has recently become a resident in various parts of England. On the subject of this class of illustrations we offer the criticism that nothing would have been lost, and a good deal would have been gained, by adopting a uniform scale—say half the natural size. As it is, we find that eleven species have in haphazard fashion been drawn to six different scales, and the absurdity of this is shown by a "little" owl being represented as equal in size to the long-eared.

Mr. Stonham repeats the usual statements about the strictly nocturnal habits of the barn owl and its helplessness if driven to face the light; but we can ourselves vouch

for the fact that this species, and even the tawny owl, will, when food is not too plentiful, go hunting in broad daylight. Of the latter bird we read that it "is said occasionally to make use of the nest of a crow, rook, or magpie, or of a squirrel's drey"; it is certainly very partial to an old squirrel's drey, which it flattens out; and last spring we witnessed an instance of a magpie's being evicted from its nest as soon as it was built. The beautiful hoopoe has some notoriously unpleasant habits, so far as nidification is concerned, and Mr. Stonham mentions another surprising trait; in China it often nests in coffins, and is on that account known as the "coffin-bird." It is pointed out that this bird visits us in increasing numbers every year, and in spite of persecution "has reared its young in all the southern counties from Kent to Devon"; as a matter of fact, it has also done so in Cornwall. On the subject of the cuckoo Mr. Stonham is disposed to accept the generally rejected theory as to its sucking eggs, on the ground that "remains of egg-shells have been found in their crops," whilst he has often seen eggs, apparently sucked, lying by the side of nests containing a cuckoo's egg.

Gray Lady and the Birds. By Mabel Osgood Wright. (New York, the Macmillan Company.)—Mrs. Wright has added another to her already long list of nature books. She is the American counterpart of the late Mrs. Brightwen, and *mutatis mutandis* this volume is in some sort the equivalent of 'Wild Nature won by Kindness.' It was, we are told, primarily prepared for the guidance of teachers in the rural schools of Connecticut, and in sympathetic hands it should serve its purpose. As a book for children to read to themselves its success is more doubtful, for it contains somewhat solid food for tender digestions. The wise dissertations on bird-life are loosely strung together by the "Gray Lady" for the benefit of her unsophisticated protégés, and garnished by an unusual number of quotations—good and otherwise—in verse and prose. The excellent illustrations are mainly taken from the educational leaflets of the National Audubon Association, Mrs. Wright being president of that society in her State. Those who have worked for the establishment of a Bird and Arbour Day in our own country will be keenly interested in the elaboration of the idea in these pages, and will doubtless find themselves in sympathy with various practical suggestions on those lines. In the story everything turns on the personality of this Gray Lady, and in real life it would certainly be the chief factor in the case. We will content ourselves with a single extract. The question of cruel millinery has led up to an interesting account of the ostrich-farming which for the last twenty-five years has been successfully carried on in the States as well as in South Africa: the result is gratifying, for "I wish my ma had an ostrich plume in her Sunday hat instead of that mean egret," sighed Eliza Clausen, half to herself. "I can take the smaller wings out of mine and leave the ribbon, but the feather's the whole topknot of ma's."

SOCIETIES.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 27.—Sir Edward Maunde Thompson, V.P., in the chair.—The excavation of Harborough Cave, near Brington, Derbyshire, was described by Mr. W. Storrs Fox. The opening was in the face of a limestone crag, and had been enlarged within living memory; on the same occasion the floor of the oblong chamber had been levelled by the addition of a thick layer of rubble in those parts not encumbered by blocks fallen from the roof. Excavations last year, undertaken by private subscription, revealed two ancient

floors of trodden black earth, the material between them yielding many implements of flint and bone. Near the entrance the lower floor was pierced to the red cave-earth, which apparently contained animal remains of the Paleolithic period, but was not further investigated. A shaft near the inner wall showed a floor of trodden earth at a lower level than before, but probably of the same date, as there were two obvious strata of intentional filling above it without relics of any kind. In the north-east angle a narrow passage was found below the modern level, leading to an inner chamber that awaits exploration. Mr. Reginald Smith described the objects exhibited from the cave, which dated from the Bronze Age, and possibly earlier, as flint flakes were numerous. The majority of the bone borers and needles, boars' tusks (some perforated), and worked points of red-deer antler probably belonged to the Early Iron Age, as did also a fine bronze brooch almost identical with one from the Queen's Barrow, Arras, East Riding, Yorks. It had been richly ornamented with studs and beads of a pinkish substance that could now be recognized as coral, the central stud having a recent fracture. In France coral was not in use after about 250 B.C., but British examples were quoted belonging to the last two centuries B.C. Several iron fragments, with lanceheads perhaps contemporary with a few Roman brooches of the second century, and some pottery fragments of the Bronze and Early Iron Ages, completed the list of ancient remains from the site.—Sir J. Charles Robinson also exhibited a series of enamelled "horse trappings" of mediæval date, mostly of French origin.

March 5.—Viscount Dillon, V.P., in the chair.—This being an evening appointed for the election of Fellows, no papers were read.—Mr. C. E. Keyser exhibited a fine series of large photographs of Norman doorways in Norfolk churches and castles.—The following were elected Fellows: Messrs. William Martin, LL.D., Harold Owen Bodvel-Roberts, Bernard Roth, John Humphreys, David Dippie Dixon, Edward Neil Baynes, Vernon J. Watney, and Mervyn Edmund Macartney.

ZOOLOGICAL.—March 3.—Mr. G. A. Boulenger, V.P., in the chair.—The Secretary read a letter from Mr. Roland Trimen, describing a cuticular claw-like growth, about seven lines in length, on the tip of the tail of a domestic cat in his possession. The Secretary exhibited, for comparison, the tail of a young lion, on which such a structure is well known to occur. He also exhibited some skins of the coypu (*Myocastor coypu*) lent to him for the purpose by Mr. C. Hawkins, and called attention to the dorso-lateral position of the nipples of the mammary glands. The peculiar position of these organs in the coypu and some of its allies was long ago discussed by Sir Richard Owen, but apparently was not known to writers of recent textbooks.—Mr. F. E. Beddard exhibited a preparation of the colon and rectum of the badger (*Meles meles*), and directed attention to the unusual size of the Payer's patches.—Dr. P. Chalmers Mitchell read a paper entitled 'On a Young Female Kordofan Giraffe,' and illustrated his remarks by lantern slides.—Mr. Beddard gave an abstract of his communication entitled 'A Comparison of the Neotropical Species of *Corallus*, *C. cookii* with *C. madagascariensis*; and on some Points in the Anatomy of *C. caninus*.'—Mr. R. I. Pocock described a new species of monkey of the genus *Cercopithecus*, which differs from *C. neglectus* principally in the absence of the black band across the head, and in the reddish tinge of the hairs beneath the callosities. He proposed to name this new monkey *C. ezra*.

MICROSCOPICAL.—Feb. 19.—Mr. A. N. Disney in the chair.—Mr. J. E. Barnard exhibited and described an improved type of mercury-vapour lamp for use with the microscope. It was made with a thicker and shorter tube than the one previously exhibited, but it gave a source of light sufficiently large to enable critical illumination to be obtained with a well-filled field when medium powers were used. It was exhibited applied to two microscopes: one with a screen, giving absolutely monochromatic green light; the other without a screen, giving a soft bluish light, which, owing to the absence of red rays, was an excellent illuminant for visual microscopic work. Mr. Gordon inquired if any short-length waves of light, which might prove

injurious to the user, were present. Mr. Barnard said this risk was virtually nil, as the glass tube absorbed nearly all the ultra-violet rays. A further safeguard in the case of glass tubes transparent to violet rays was to use a screen of a solution of sulphate of quinine.—Mr. C. L. Curties exhibited a number of slides under microscopes illustrative of the life-history of some Diptera.—Stereo-photomicrographs by Mr. W. Dollman of Adelaide were exhibited.—A paper by Mr. Nelson on 'Eyepieces for the Microscope' was taken as read.—The Rev. Eustace Tozer read a paper giving the results of his observations (extending over four years) on a rare protophyte. His paper was illustrated by lantern-slides and living and mounted specimens under microscopes. Mr. Tozer also exhibited some slides of rotifers, stained and mounted in balsam by a new process.—Dr. Hebb read a paper, by Mr. F. Chapman, on 'Dimorphism in the Recent Foraminifer *Alveolina bosci*.' The paper was illustrated by photographs, and a slide showing the two forms was exhibited under a microscope. Mr. Earland thought he had seen the forms referred to on several occasions, but it had not occurred to him that the variation was due to dimorphism, and he had regarded it as an abnormal variation. It was a question that could only be answered by cutting thin sections through the median line, a process requiring the greatest skill and delicacy of touch. Mr. Chapman was well known for his skill in these matters, and he was to be congratulated on the interesting discovery resulting from his work.—Dr. Hebb also read a paper, by Mr. Nelson, on *Biddulphia mobilensis*, in which the author described some exceedingly minute secondary markings in the primary areolations of this diatom, discovered by him. He concluded with some remarks on the advantage of the long-tube microscope in such observations.—Mr. C. L. Curties exhibited on the screen a number of lantern-slides of various microscopic objects.

PHILOLOGICAL.—March 6.—Mr. H. A. Nesbitt, Treasurer, in the chair.—A resolution was passed recording the regret of the Society at the death of its late Treasurer, Mr. B. Dawson, and expressing its sympathy with his widow and family.—An important paper was then read, by Dr. H. N. MacCracken, of Harvard, on 'The Lydgate Canon,' prints of it being put into members' hands, to enable them to see details passed over in the reading aloud. Dr. MacCracken had examined every known Lydgate manuscript, and every accessible miscellaneous manuscript likely to contain a poem that may be Lydgate's. He founded his Canon on Lydgate's own statements, on those of contemporary scribes, and the internal evidence of rhyme, metre, and style. Under 'Rhyme' he noted Lydgate's few differences from Chaucer's laws. Under 'Metre' he recognized that Lydgate in his five-accent line allowed greater variety than Chaucer in the number of unaccented syllables, and he even justified broken-backed lines like 'Troy Book,' 16: "To like vpön, inly furious." Under 'Style' Dr. MacCracken noted that in subject Lydgate was devoutly Catholic and patriotically Lancastrian, and, except in 'The Hood of Green,' never descended to the vulgar and obscene, though in translating he might feel bound to reproduce his original. He was, besides, like all other verse-writers of his day, strongly under Chaucer's influence, and also under that of the authors of 'The Pearl' and the 'Quia Amore Languet.' His personality was often modestly expressed in his writings; and his rhyme-tags, collected in the Early English Text Society's edition of 'Reason and Sensuality,' are characteristic. Dr. MacCracken then commented on such of his printed list of Lydgate's 155 genuine works—all verse but one, the Richard II. bit of the prose 'Brut,' or Chronicle of England—as he wished to call special attention to; and then proceeded to his list of works ascribed to Lydgate at some time or another by different writers or printers, which he could not accept as his. Among the folk on whom he passed sentence as guilty were two editors of the E.E.T.S., Triggs and Glauning; also Bp. Alcock, Stephen Hawes, Wynkyn de Worde, John Bale, John Stow, John Pits, Bp. Tanner, Joseph Ritson (a special sinner), Sir Harris Nicolas, J. O. Halliwell, Prof. Skeat, Dr. J. H. Lange, Dr. Marsh, and the printers of 'London Lickpenny,' which is plainly Elizabethan, as a sample of Lydgate's verse: its "style and rhyme are utterly at variance with

Lydgate's practice," and no competent judge holds it to be his. With a warning that "there are still a few dozen poems of the fifteenth century which, it is safe to predict, will be shortly heralded as Lydgate's," but are certainly not his, Dr. MacCracken ended one of the most important papers that the Society has had before it for a long time.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—*March 3.*—Sir William Matthews, President, in the chair.—It was announced that 13 Associate Members had been transferred to the class of Members, and that 11 candidates had been admitted as Students.—The monthly ballot resulted in the election of Sir A. Noble as an Honorary Member, 8 Members, 25 Associate Members, and 1 Associate.

PHYSICAL.—*Feb. 28.*—Dr. C. Chree, President, in the chair.—A paper by Mr. S. W. J. Smith and Mr. H. Moss, entitled 'On the Contact Potential Differences determined by means of Null Solutions,' was read by Mr. Smith.—A paper on 'An Experimental Examination of Gibbs' Theory of Surface Concentration regarded as the Basis of Adsorption, and its Application to the Theory of Dyeing,' was read by Mr. W. C. M. Lewis.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- Mon.** Society of Arts, 8.—'Fuel and its Future,' Lecture II., Prof. V. B. Lewes. (Cantor Lecture.)
- Tues.** Royal Institution, 8.—'Membranes: their Structure, Uses, and Properties,' Lecture VI., Prof. W. Stirling.
- Statistical, 8.—'Railways and the Trade of Great Britain,' Mr. C. Lewis Edwards.
- Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—Discussion on 'The New York Rapid-Transit Subway.'
- Society of Arts, 8.—'Child Workers and Wage-Earners,' Miss Nettie Adler. (Shaw Lecture on Industrial Hygiene.)
- Zoological, 8.30.—Some Observations on the Effects of Pressure upon the Direction of Hair in Mammals, Dr. W. A. Kidd; 'The Rudd Exploration of South Africa: IX. List of Mammals obtained by Mr. Grant on the Gorongosa Mountains, Portuguese South-East Africa,' Messrs. O. Thomas and R. C. Wroughton; 'Notes upon some Species and Geographical Races of Serpents (Capriensis) and Goralis (Nemoratus), based upon Specimens exhibited in the Society's Gardens,' Mr. R. I. Pocock.
- Wed.** Entomological, 8.
- Folk-lore Society, 8.—'Folk Music,' Mr. Cecil J. Sharp.
- Geological, 8.—'The Carboniferous Rocks at Loughkeilly, co. Dublin, with an Account of the Faunal Succession and Correlation,' Dr. C. A. Matley and Dr. A. Vaughan; 'A Note on the Petrology and Physiography of Western Liberia, West Coast of Africa,' Mr. J. Parkinson.
- Microscopical, 8.—Lord Avebury's Presidential Address, 'On Seeds, with Special Reference to British Plants.'
- Society of Arts, 8.—'Impressionist Painting: its Genesis and Development,' Mr. W. Dewhurst.
- Thurs.** Royal Institution, 8.—'Standardization in Various Aspects: I. Mechanical Engineering,' Mr. R. T. Glazebrook.
- Royal Society, 4.30.
- Institution of Electrical Engineers, 8.—'New Alternating Current Instruments,' Dr. W. E. Sumner and Mr. J. W. Record.
- Linnean, 8.—'The Paleogeomorphology of the Atlantic and the Arctic Oceans,' Canon Norman; 'A Revision of the Genus *Coleopoda*,' Mr. T. F. Chipp; 'On the Holotheurians from the Red Sea,' Mr. E. Hindle.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'The Navigation of the Air,' Lecture I., Mr. H. S. Hele-Shaw. (Howard Lecture.)
- Chemical, 8.30.—'The Constitution of Electronegative "Thio-cyanates,"' Messrs. A. E. Dixon and J. Taylor; 'An Improved Form of Pyrometer,' Mr. W. B. Bousfield; and other Papers.
- Society of Antiquaries, 8.30.—'Report of the Red Hills Expedition Committee,' Mr. J. D. W. Ball.
- Fri.** Institution of Civil Engineers, 8.—'Stresses in Brick Arches,' Mr. J. D. W. Ball.
- Sat.** Royal Institution, 8.—'Recent Earthquakes,' Prof. J. Milne.
- Royal Institution, 3.—'Electric Discharges through Gases,' Lecture III., Prof. J. J. Thomson.

Science Gossip.

MESSRS. SMITH & ELDER will publish immediately a third and thoroughly revised edition of Mr. A. D. Webster's well-known work on 'Hardy Ornamental Flowering Trees and Shrubs,' including several Chinese and Japanese varieties and chapters on pruning, planting, grouping, soils, &c.

THE S.P.C.K. is publishing in May next revised editions of 'Turbines,' by Mr. A. E. Tompkins, and 'Spinning Tops,' by Prof. J. Perry, in the "Romance of Science Series"; and 'The Fundamental Conceptions of Chemistry,' by Prof. S. M. Jorgensen, translated from the last German edition by Mr. M. P. Applebey.

DR. HENRY CLIFTON SORBY, F.R.S., who died at Sheffield last Monday in the eighty-second year of his age, was a man of remarkable originality, and has left his mark on many departments of science. Exactly half a century ago the Geological Society of London published his epoch-making paper on the microscopic structure of crystals—a paper which laid the foundation of the science of microscopic petrography, and thus revolutionized the study of rocks. A few

years later he virtually started the important study of micro-metallography by a paper on the minute structure of iron and steel. Spectrum analysis, especially microspectroscopy, engaged much of his attention, and he successfully applied his methods to the investigation of the colouring matters of animals and plants. One of his earliest researches related to the origin of slaty cleavage in rocks. Much of his life was spent on board his yacht the *Glimpse*, where he was led to study marine zoology and the physical characters of marine and estuarine deposits. Archaeology also attracted him. Dr. Sorby was always much interested in educational work in Sheffield, and, having been President of the Council of Firth College, was largely instrumental in founding the University of Sheffield. As far back as 1869 he was awarded the Wollaston Medal of the Geological Society, and ten years later he received the honorary degree of LL.D. from the University of Cambridge.

THE REV. J. H. METCALF announces four new small planets discovered at Taunton, Mass., on the 8th of January, two on the 30th, and three on the 4th ult.

PHOTOGRAPHS taken by Mr. Melotte at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, on January 27th and February 28th have resulted in the discovery of a small planet (possibly, Mr. Cowell remarks, a satellite) near Jupiter. It is of only the sixteenth magnitude, and was photographed by Prof. Max Wolf at Heidelberg on the 3rd inst.

MADAME CERASKI, examining photographic plates taken by M. Blazko at the Moscow Observatory, has detected variability in a star situated in the north-western part of the constellation *Ursa Major*, the magnitude of which is only about $11\frac{1}{2}$ when brightest, and sinks at times below $12\frac{1}{2}$. A maximum took place at the beginning of March last year; the period is probably long, and cannot yet be assigned. In a general list it will be reckoned as var. 5, 1908, *Ursa Majoris*. Madame Ceraski last month detected another in the constellation *Gemini*, which is probably of the Algol type. From photographs taken by M. Blazko it appears that its normal magnitude is the ninth, but on a plate of April 5th last year it was $1\frac{1}{2}$ magnitudes fainter, and on previous occasions below the normal. It is situated near the boundary with *Canis Minor*, and will be reckoned as var. 6, 1908, *Geminorum*.

FINE ARTS

WATER-COLOUR EXHIBITIONS.

EXHIBITIONS of water-colours are very numerous and popular in London. This need not of itself be deplored, for the practice of water-colour is an excellent thing for a painter—provided he does not keep to it too exclusively. Oil painting to-day sadly lacks method. The use of water-colour forces a man to acquire a method—indeed, if he persist in it too long, it generally leads him to apply that method so thoroughly that it becomes a convention. The annual show of water-colours at Messrs. Agnew's galleries reminds us that we may say this without casting any special slur on contemporary artists, for it always was so, and a large proportion of the works of the Old English Water-Colour School are, if respectable, also dull. The large drawings here by Prout and Varley, Barret and De Wint, Carl Haag, Richardson, and Topham are more or less capable repetitions of formulae. They are neither inspired by nature nor informed by any high degree

of that feeling for rhythm and proportion of parts which often survives, even when painting has become a matter of abstract convention.

We say this of the larger work of De Wint advisedly, for some smaller examples here have none of this cold formality, and are among the best on the walls. *A Shady Meadow* (4), coming early in the show, may be specially mentioned for its liquid quality—cool in colour, but with a lusciousness as of wine. Further on Turner's blond *Aysgarth Force* (11) has a delicacy of surface which makes the surrounding drawings look heavy and dull, though in the *Tintern Abbey* (20), by E. Dayes, this dullness is not without charm. *Sleaford* (23) is another good De Wint, very natural and spontaneous; while David Cox is well represented by *Tending Sheep* (34), wherein the blue sky which is almost Cox's trade-mark is, for the nonce, aptly supported by the rich, involved colour of a well-painted middle distance. This work altogether is strong and well knit, but the general character of the pictures on this wall is laboured and perfunctory, and it is something of a relief to come on the earlier and more primitive art of Paul Sandby. *The Eagle Tower, Carnarvon Castle* (41), is confessedly a hard, matter-of-fact architectural drawing; but the detail of distance with a sailing ship on the left is beautiful in its pale simplicity. *Fulham* (42) has no passage so charming, but is lightly and directly done throughout, in a way which implies great powers of free draughtsmanship.

The end wall is hung with continental work ranged on each side of a small group of English drawings, of which the *Common near Haslemere*, by T. Collier (52), is the best. Cecil Lawson's *The Doone Valley* (59) is strong in melodramatic fashion; but his other drawings are very common. The continental work does not reach the finest quality, except an exquisite study by Harpignies, *Moulin à Hérisson, Allier* (68). The freshness and limpid clarity here achieved by the artist, his affectionate insistence on locality (involving for once no sacrifice of larger truth), are beyond praise. Apparently it is the simplest thing in the world, but the scale of silvery greys and subtly varied greens is wider and more complex than at first appears. A cattle piece by Mauve (47) and an interior by Neuhuys (50) are too tight and careful to be typical, though they are far from bad examples of their respective painters; and there is a modest and excellent little drawing by Bosboom (63).

Lewis's famous *Frank Encampment in the Desert of Mount Sinai* (85) offers a singular contrast to these unelaborated studies. Ruskin's laudation of it was not extravagant if we are to judge of an artist's position by his power of subordinating detail, for the picture is a technical marvel in this respect—in the infinite delicacy of modulation with which a world of detail is rendered in what is so nearly a flat tone. But the painter does not use this technical power for any purpose of fine design. The general silhouette of his group emerges clearly enough, but it is a small and frittered pattern, without nobility in its proportions or compelling purpose underlying its structure. While, however, the 'Encampment' can thus hardly claim a place among great pictures—while, looking at certain of the pictures around it, we may feel that Lewis's purpose is less purely artistic than that of the typical English or continental master of water colour—only a narrow theorist could judge him as a lesser painter. We cannot look without admiration on certain passages of execution in his picture, as, for instance, the distant village and rubbly hillside which, for all

its elaboration, makes so simple a background of empty air for the group of silver vessels in the centre of the picture.

Another drawing of considerable merit in parts is Sir John Gilbert's *Sir Andrew Aguecheek writes a Challenge* (98). Here the alley of trees behind the knight is an example of frank convention which is yet expressive and beautiful. The figure of the knight is expressive, too, in more theatrical fashion; but the other personages of the tableau might be by another hand, so inferior are they from the point of view alike of the stylist and the observer.

There remain two screens, upon which we find a study of a child—accomplished in execution, if commonplace in design—by William Hunt (193); some trivial little pictures by Birket Foster; and an excellent Prout, *Okehampton* (124), in which, as is frequently the case, he is seen to much greater advantage than in the more mannered work foolishly prized as typical. The screens also display what, along with the Harpignies and the Lewis, constitute the gems of the collection—three fine drawings by Girtin and some wonderful work of Turner's. *Glamis Castle* (131), impressive as it is, is a little spoilt by a sort of trimming of mechanically broken line; the *Old Water Mill* (130) is a full-toned, vigorous painting; but *St. Agatha's Abbey, Easby* (123), is the drawing which shows Girtin at his best, almost Oriental in his loyalty to a single mood—to one deep chord of colour firmly struck. Here we have all the advantages, and none of the drawbacks, of the traditional use of water-colour. Girtin is a flattering representative of the British water-colourist's convention. Turner is not a representative at all, except in one or two early drawings, charming in the manner of Sandby—*Christ Church and Corpus Christi, Oxford* (106), and *Near Dover* (111). He is far too clever. He represents the divine discontent of restless genius which is always inventing new methods, rather than the classic restraint of the man bent upon perfecting the beauty inherent in a simple process, and distrustful of strange alloys. The artificial brilliance of *Arona, Lago Maggiore* (166), with its exquisite passage of dainty figures in a silvery pool of shade, shares the honours with the *Küsnacht, Lake of Lucerne* (173), which is more perfectly balanced, and an even more copious encyclopædia of the shifts and dodges of the water-colour painter. This, we suppose, is what amateurs would like to be taught when they take lessons in water-colour painting; but how unbearable it would be in lesser hands! how wanting in technical simplicity and intrinsic calm! The work, indeed, conquers us somewhat as Rostand's *Cyrano* conquers—by quantity, by a brilliance pressing at every point and not to be denied.

Turner was an innovator in a medium the typical exponents of which have usually set a high value on conservatism, but have rarely shown that quality in its most aristocratic phase. They were adroit and capable craftsmen, but it is misleading to call them great, and unjust to set them on a pinnacle at too considerable a height from the ablest men of to-day. The best work of Mr. Alfred Rich (now being shown at the New English Art Club Galleries off Bond Street) is little inferior, if at all, to that of "the masters of the English Water-Colour School." He has not the force that Cox occasionally possessed, but is more intelligent and more master of his hand, less a slave to habit. De Wint is the painter he is most like, or Bonington in a much narrower field than that of the most representative water-colour painter of them all. Bonington's work is the very acme of lightness and spon-

taneity, but for all that is sadly professional, and full of the tricks of the trade. Mr. Rich shows the same feature, admirable artist as he is. *The Barbican, Lewes* (86), is wonderfully clear, dexterous, brilliant—and artificial: it might have been done by Bonington. *The Sandpit* (102) has just De Wint's lush, easy flood of colour. *Lancing College* (97) and *Hurstpierpoint* (109) are more definitely new departures of a personal kind. *Aspen Poplars* (77), which has a good deal of rather self-conscious grace, indicates a direction in which there is the possibility of much development.

These remarks should not be taken as indicating other than high appreciation of this exhibition, which is an oasis of refreshment among the many dull collections through which the art-critic diligently plods. It shows a great advance in Mr. Rich's art, and a large proportion of the works exhibited are of distinguished merit.

THE DUBLIN MUNICIPAL GALLERY OF MODERN ART.

THERE is much of elusive beauty which is beyond the power of analysis in the modern pictures at Dublin. Look, for instance, at the Corots which hang in a line along the Barbizon Room. These twilight skies, these meadows damp with the dews of dawn, these canvases with their melodious rhythms of blue and violet and green, over which an opal mist floats dimly—what have they to do with the concrete words and phrases in which we must clothe our impressions? We are conscious of a sense of the inadequacy of language, when we are face to face with these revelations of beauty.

The quality of suggestiveness is characteristic of many of the pictures in the new gallery. Pictures have been chosen elsewhere for many reasons: for the interest of their subject, or because the painter was a "local man," or because they were necessary links in a chain, or because they had a definite educational value for the artist. In Dublin they appear to have been chosen for their own sake alone—because they were beautiful works of art.

It is this, perhaps, that gives the collection a certain homogeneity, in spite of its wide scope. One is aware of the influence of a certain restraint, a fastidious eclecticism which has rejected extremes in all schools; and hence, though almost every artistic movement of the past fifty years is represented, there is an air of repose which is often lacking in exhibitions of the work of contemporary painters.

Much is due to the hanging. The æsthetic judgment of the Hon. Director has enabled him to avoid pitfalls, and he has shown almost as much discrimination in the arrangement of the rooms as in the choice of the pictures. The collection is temporarily housed in one of the famous Georgian mansions of Dublin, in which the richly decorated ceilings and plaques in low relief form an admirable example of Dublin stucco-work of the best period.

In the topmost rooms are the drawings, the water-colours, and the etchings—studies by Corot, Millet, and Segantini; joyous impressions of the South by Brabazon; grave etchings by M. Legros and Mr. Strang. In one of the drawing-rooms, where the light is brightest, are hung the French Impressionists and a representative series of works by Mancini. The adjoining room is principally devoted to the Barbizon School; downstairs are the pictures by British artists, amongst whom the Irishmen

form an important group; while the sculpture—a small, but highly interesting collection of bronzes by M. Rodin, Messrs. J. H. M. Furse, Barye, John Hughes, and others—is in the Conservatory.

Mr. Hugh Lane has been ruthless in his exclusions, except, perhaps, in the case of Mancini, who is seen in all his moods and all the stages of his development. In the eight examples here we have Mancini when he painted like Stevens, Mancini of ten years ago, and Mancini as he paints to-day. In the same room with the Mancinis is an alluring Renoir, 'Les Parapluies,' said to be the favourite work of the painter, and the one on which he has worked most. It is wonderfully simple and wonderfully realistic—a fresh and vivid presentation of a group of Parisians in a shower of rain, graceful in line, and satisfying in colour. Near it hang two fine Monets: the 'Waterloo Bridge,' a symphony in a key of blue and grey, full of temperament, sensitive and suggestive; and the dazzlingly brilliant 'Vetheuil,' in which the snow glitters with a white radiance through the sun-steeped tones.

By Manet there are two superb works: his famous 'Concert in the Tuileries Garden,' in which the elegance of the Second Empire gives occasion for some delightful variations in tones of brown and grey and pale yellow; and the 'Portrait of Eva Gonzalès,' which is certainly one of the most beautiful, if it is not one of the most characteristic, of his portraits of women. Manet is the most direct of painters, but he has managed to convey in this portrait, with its noble and simple design, a sense of mystery and elusiveness.

To appreciate the two Mancinis which hang on either side of the Gonzalès portrait one must undergo a change of mood. Mancini, who loves a rather theatrical "arrangement," at first sight may seem, to the eye attuned to the severer lines of Manet and his predecessors, to overload his canvases, and play off colour against colour, till the value of line is lost in the exuberance of the mass. To the Mancini enthusiast, on the other hand, Mlle. Gonzalès, with her exquisitely modelled arms and delicately painted white gown, may appear a little flat and over-pictorial; but the man who instinctively likes Mancini will be conscious of his qualities, not his defects. These qualities are, besides his gorgeous colour, a wonderful intensity and accuracy of observation, and a power of conveying a sense of depth and of mass which few modern painters attain. We have to go back to the great names of the past—to Rembrandt and Velasquez—for a standard of comparison for this artist. He is, however, at his best when he is most restrained, and when his delight in brightly coloured flowers and bric-à-brac is held in check: for this reason the portrait of the Marchese del Grillo is more satisfying as a work of art than the portrait of Mr. Lane, brilliant and daring though the latter is. 'The Figure-Maker,' a portrait of the artist's father, presented to the Gallery by Mr. Sargent, is a further admirable example of this painter's work.

Amongst the other pictures in this room which call for special mention are a finely drawn head of a peasant woman by Degas, a work full of distinction; a still-life study by Vuillard, delightful in colour; and 'The Village at Twilight,' a beautiful example of the expressive and highly personal art of M. le Sidaner.

Passing to the adjoining room, we find over the mantelpiece a large decoration by Puvis, 'The Beheading of St. John the Baptist,' an unfinished study for his larger

work on this subject. It is less interesting than the small picture by him, 'The Toilet,' a semi-nude figure of a woman, superbly modelled, without austerity, but with a noble simplicity of line. By Daumier there is a beautiful and original work, 'Don Quixote and Sancho Panza'; by Diaz a glowing little canvas, 'The Offspring of Love,' rich and sensuous as a picture by one of the old Venetians; by Fantin, a portrait of himself, which captivates us no less than his haunting flower pieces, of which there are three in the collection.

Many visitors to the Gallery will rejoice to find here three examples of Monticelli's work. His touch, which seems light as a butterfly's wing, has nevertheless an exact precision; and time, in fusing his colours, is already justifying his prophecy, "Moi, je peins pour cinquante ans après moi."

The group of small pictures by Corot (ten in number) includes examples of his early work, his middle or Italian period, and his later and more characteristic style. They comprise the beautiful 'Avignon' and 'Marseilles Harbour'; also a study of a woman resting which is of special interest, as figure studies by this painter are rarely seen out of France. Three fine examples of the strenuous art of Courbet; a well-known Rousseau—a moonlight scene in the forest of Fontainebleau, with some children bathing; a delicately painted *payage* by Harpignies; a Troyon, and a Barye, complete the group of French landscape artists.

By Stevens there is his exquisitely painted interior 'The Present,' with a seated figure of a lady reading a letter; and by Mauve a little windstrewn landscape, slight in subject, but beautiful in treatment.

The English schools are represented no less fully than the French. Mr. Wilson Steer finds in the Dublin Gallery the recognition which his work has lacked in England; honour has also been done to the work of the late James Charles. There are examples of Whistler and of Watts, Stott of Oldham and Holloway; Simeon Solomon, Mr. Charles Shannon, Mr. Charles Ricketts, and Mr. Conder. But a mere enumeration of names and titles fatigues the reader without enlightening him, and I have dwelt so long on the foreign pictures that I have no space to do justice to the varied and attractive collection of modern English and Irish pictures which Mr. Lane has begged and bought for Dublin. Nor can I do more than allude to the drawings, water-colours, and etchings, over a hundred in number; the collection of sculpture, which includes five bronzes by M. Rodin; and the interesting series of portraits of contemporary Irishmen and Irishwomen, many of which were painted specially for the Gallery by Signor Mancini, Mr. J. B. Yeats, and Mr. William Orpen.

Dublin has now a Gallery of Modern Art which will bear comparison with any similar collection anywhere in the world. For this gift it owes much to the self-sacrifice and enthusiasm of the Committee who so loyally supported the scheme, and without whose help in inaugurating a fund for the purchase of pictures it could never have been accomplished. The names of Mr. Dermot O'Brien, and Mr. Richard Orpen, the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary of that Committee, upon whom has fallen the greater part of the work, should be remembered with gratitude by citizens of Dublin. But most of all does this Gallery owe its existence to the indomitable energy and constant generosity of its Hon. Director, Mr. Hugh P. Lane. "La meilleure louange du donateur n'est-elle pas son donateur même?" This is certainly

true in the case of the Dublin Municipal Gallery of Modern Art. E. D.

ALLIED ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION.

My attention has been called to a paragraph in your columns on February 29th concerning this Association, which contained certain statements which are not quite correct. So far as its exhibitions are concerned, the Association has modelled its rules more upon the Société des Artistes Indépendants than the Salon d'Automne, and it is incorrect to say that any one of these three societies has done away with, or contemplates the abandonment of, the Hanging Committee. What the Indépendants in France have done, and what the new Association here proposes to do, is to dispense with the Selecting Jury, the first aim of either body being to afford independent artists the opportunity of submitting their work to the public without restrictions. The exhibition will be arranged by a Hanging Committee of not less than forty, elected by all exhibitors, and every endeavour will be made to secure sympathetic groupment.

It is true that among the founder members are "many who are prominent among our younger artists"—such as Mr. Walter Crane, for example—but I beg leave to state that the Association makes no restrictions with regard to age, and, aiming to be national and catholic, has welcomed, and will welcome, in its midst artists of all ages and all opinions. Particulars may be obtained from the Secretary, 67 and 69, Chancery Lane, W. C.

FRANK RUTTER,
Secretary of the Allied Artists' Association.

SALE.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE sold last Saturday the following works, the property of Mr. C. J. Dickens and the late Mr. R. E. Tatham:—Drawings: Turner, Constance, 2,310*l.*; Windsor Castle, 1,785*l.*; Carnarvon Castle, 1,018*l.*; Zurich, 714*l.* Sir E. Burne-Jones, Love among the Ruins, 1,653*l.* W. Hunt, Too Hot, 767*l.*; Plums and Greengages, 136*l.* G. J. Pinwell, The Great Lady, 472*l.* Prout, The Entrance to Chartres Cathedral, 483*l.* T. M. Richardson, Naples, 388*l.* C. Robertson, The Mosque Door, Lower Egypt, 273*l.* D. G. Rossetti, Lady Lilith, 441*l.* Sir L. Alma Tadema, A Bacchante, 357*l.* D. Cox, Lynne Castle, Kent, a peasant and horses near a pond in the foreground, 252*l.* F. Dicksee, Memories, 141*l.* Sir J. Gilbert, The Standard-Bearer, 220*l.* H. G. Hine, Folkington Hill, Sussex, 283*l.* F. Walker, The Harbour of Refuge, 2,709*l.*; The Violet Field, 1,680*l.*; The Beehives, 577*l.*; Blackberry-gatherers, 147*l.* P. De Wint, Lincoln, a view of the town and cathedral from the river, 1,102*l.* H. Allingham, On the Brook Road to Hindhead, 71*l.* G. L. Bulleid, A Tanagra Image-Seller, 71*l.* B. Bradley, On the Moors, 54*l.* T. S. Cooper, Five Cows in a Meadow: Evening, 52*l.* L. P. Smythe, Among the Brambles, 67*l.* W. L. Wyllie, Toil, Glitter, Grime, and Wealth on a Flowing Tide, 78*l.* Pictures: E. Ellis, Whitby, 120*l.* E. Blair Leighton, The Gladiator's Wife, 136*l.* W. L. Wyllie, Storm and Sunshine: a Battle with the Elements, 120*l.*; Springtime in the Hundred of Hoo, 105*l.* C. Stanfield, St. Michael's Mount, fishing-boats coming into port, 173*l.* W. Müller, Carrying the Hay, Showery Weather, Valley of Gillingham in the distance, 357*l.* A. Mauve, On the Scheldt, a group of cows and calves on the bank of the river, 892*l.* Millais, Orphans, 1,617*l.* F. Walker, The Old Gate, 1,575*l.* G. Mason, The Gander, 1,995*l.* Seymour Lucas, The Roundelay, 136*l.* J. Linnell, sen., The Timber Wagon, 525*l.*

Fine-Art Gossip.

FOUR pictures bequeathed by Mr. Henry Calcott Brunning have just been added to the National Gallery. Three are by P. Neefs, and are entitled 'Interior of a Classic Church' (No. 2205), 'Vespers' (No. 2206), and 'After Vespers' (No. 2207). The fourth is H. Steenwyck's 'Interior of a Gothic Church' (No. 2204). They hang on the north and south walls of Room XI.

THE death is announced at Avignon of Paul Sain, the French artist, at the age of fifty-four. A native of Avignon, and devotedly attached to the place of his birth. Sain was happiest in his pictures of the ancient city of the Popes, with its historic ruins and romantic environs, and in his views of the Rhone. Occasionally he sought inspiration in the picturesque Ile-de-France. He studied art under Gérôme, and was a member of the Société des Artistes Français. A regular exhibitor of landscapes and portraits at the Salon for a quarter of a century, he obtained medals in 1886, 1889, 1893, and 1900.

THERE has been added to the collection in the Scottish National Gallery 'The Adoration of the Magi,' belonging to the early Sienese School; 'Christ on the Road to Calvary,' ascribed to the School of Benozzo Gozzoli; 'The Halt; or, the Wayside Inn,' by Isaac van Ostade; and 'A Young Bohemian,' by the late Thomas Graham.

THE death is reported from Berlin of Capt. W. von Marées, whose topographical work in connexion with the German excavations at Miletus, Didyma, and elsewhere is highly valued by students of archaeology. He was associated with Prof. Dörpfeld in the excavations at Leukas, and made an excellent map of that island.

THE talented sculptor Prof. Ernst Hottenroth, who has died in his fortieth year at Dresden, was most successful in architectural sculpture, and the decorations which he designed for various important buildings in Berlin and Dresden are much admired.

WE may call attention to the Architectural and Topographical Society, which has been founded to make and publish a survey of objects of architectural and archaeological interest in the British Islands. It is proposed to collect, and keep for reference in the offices of the Society, measured drawings, sketches, and photographs, &c. The publications of the Society will include a quarterly journal, *The Architectural and Topographical Record*. Each issue will contain minute descriptions of ancient buildings, heraldry, and cognate matters. The specimen sent us of the *Record* is very satisfactory, and we hope that the Society will be widely supported. The address of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Wilfrid Travers, is 33, Old Queen Street, Westminster.

AN exhibition of tapestries, hangings, wall-papers, books, &c., illustrating the life and work of William Morris, is being arranged in the Nicholson Institute at Leek, North Staffordshire, where Morris learnt how to dye his fabrics. The exhibition will open on Monday next, and close on the 24th inst.

EXHIBITIONS.

SAT. (March 14).—Camera Pictures by Alvin Langdon Coburn and Baron de Meyer, Private View, Goupil Gallery.
— Landscape and Figure Subjects in Pastel by A. L. Baldry, Private View, Ryder Gallery.
MON. Flower Gardens and Scenes in Sunny Lands, Water-Colours by the Baroness Helga von Cramm, Private View, Messrs. Graves' Galleries.
WED. Third Annual Exhibition of Flower Paintings, and Drawings by various Artists, Private View, Bailie Gallery.
SAT. (March 21).—Pictures and Drawings by a Group of Artists, Private View, Goupil Gallery.

MUSIC

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

L'Arte Musicale in Italia (XIV. Secolo al XVIII.).—Vols. VI. and VII. *Secolo XVII.* (Milan, G. Ricordi.)—When the importance of the art of music in Italy during the seventeenth century is under consideration, it must not be forgotten that Willaert, who is regarded as the founder of the Venetian School, was born in Flanders; while the great Frescobaldi, who flourished during the first half of that century, went to Flanders for a time, and published his first work at Antwerp. Yet, after due allowance is made for foreign influence, the birth of opera during the early part of the century was an event of which the glory belongs specially to Italy. In other branches of the art, however, many remarkable works were written by Italian composers, and two notable instances may be quoted in proof of the influence they exerted over foreign composers: Bach arranged no fewer than sixteen concertos by Vivaldi, and in other ways showed his interest in Italian music; while Purcell's admiration for it is clearly expressed in the preface to his 'Sonatas' of III. Parts, published in 1683.

The first of the volumes before us includes three works of interest and importance. One is Jacopo Peri's 'Euridice,' libretto by Rinuccini, a work commissioned for public performance on the occasion of the marriage of Henry IV. of France with Maria de' Medici in 1600. Already in 1594 Peri had written an opera, 'La Dafne,' which, unfortunately, is lost. A hasty perusal of the music of 'Euridice' would lead one to consider it somewhat monotonous; and even after one has carefully studied it, that criticism would still apply to certain portions; but the dignified 'Prologue' is in itself sufficient to show that the composer was seeking, by what limited means were at his command, to intensify the meaning of the words. This aim is still more evident in the remarkable passage in which Orpheus gives vent to his despair on being informed by Dafne of the death of Euridice: this, indeed, is quoted by Sir Hubert Parry in the third volume of 'The Oxford History of Music.' The second work is 'Combattimento di Tancredi et Clorinda,' poem by Torquato Tasso, music by Claudio Monteverde, written for some festivities which took place at the Palace of Girolamo Mozenigo in 1624; and the third, 'Il Ballo delle Ingrate'; and in the history of opera the first two, especially, are of commanding interest. The pianoforte accompaniments of the learned editor, Signor Torchi, able as they are, cannot, of course, reproduce the colouring of the orchestration either of Peri or of Monteverde, the latter of which was so characteristic, any more than the cleverest pianoforte scores of Wagner's music-dramas can give a real idea of the full scores. Besides the printed notes of these old operas are, after all, only the body of the music; for proper appreciation it would have to be re-created by great dramatic artists.

In the second of the interesting volumes before us we have chamber music by various composers. Biaggio Marini, who flourished during the first half of the seventeenth century, wrote sonatas for one, two, and three violins with basso continuo; also Correnti, Gagliarda, Balletti, &c., all of which are remarkable for their rhythmic life and their charm and freshness. Then there are two sonatas for violin and basso continuo, of stately, yet not stiff character, by G. B. Fontana, who had the reputation

of being one of the chief violin virtuosi in Italy. Martino Pesenti, "cieco a nativitate," is represented by two delightful movements for violin, a 'Corrente e Gagliarda.' Nine short movements for two violins and violone by G. B. Vitali (father, according to Eitner, of Tomaso Antonio Vitali) are most attractive. There are other compositions by Andrea Falconiero, Marco Uccellini, and G. B. Bassano, whom Purcell is said to have taken as a model. Of all these compositions the pianoforte part has been evolved from the figured bass by the editor, Luigi Torchi, with rare skill, though here and there occur harmonies and doubling of parts which seem to us somewhat too modern.

Musical Gossip.

A NEW String Quartet by Sir Charles Stanford, written in remembrance of Dr. Joachim, and based upon a theme in the violinist's Romance in B flat, was produced at the Broadwood Concert at the Æolian Hall on Thursday evening of last week. In his treatment of the thematic material the composer exhibits remarkable ingenuity. The most effective section of the work is the slow movement, in the style of an elegy, which is deeply expressive and charged with emotion. This quartet, marked Op. 104, was interpreted by the Kruse Quartet.

It is much to be regretted that Sir Hubert Parry should have been compelled, by reason of ill-health, to resign the Professorship of Music at Oxford University. Always a man of great energy, the distinguished musician has been putting too great a strain upon himself. His numerous friends and admirers hope that with the complete rest which has been prescribed for him his health may be re-established. No decision has yet been made with regard to his successor at Oxford, but it may be noted that Dr. H. P. Allen (organist to New College, and conductor of the Bach Choir), Dr. Ernest Walker, of Balliol, Dr. Basil Harwood, and Mr. D. F. Tovey are among the able musicians of whom Oxford has reason to be proud.

SOME interesting performances will be given at the Cologne Opera House in June: Mozart's 'Figaro,' 'Die Meistersinger,' Xavier Leroux's 'Le Chemineau,' Debussy's 'Pelléas et Mélisande,' and Verdi's 'Falstaff,' on June 14th, 18th, 21st, 23rd, and 28th respectively. The two French works will be performed by artists from the Théâtre de la Monnaie, Brussels.

THE steps taken by the municipal authorities of Vienna for permission to transfer the mortal remains of Haydn from Eisenstadt to the central cemetery at Vienna, have not been successful. Haydn was buried at Gumpendorf, a suburb of Vienna, in 1809, but his remains were exhumed and solemnly reinterred in the Calvary Church at Eisenstadt, where for so many years he lived and laboured. Any fresh transfer, therefore, would seem an indignity.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

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|--------|--|
| SUN. | Sunday Concert Society, 3.30, Queen's Hall. |
| — | Concert, 3.30, Albert Hall. |
| — | Sunday League, 7, Queen's Hall. |
| MON. | Miss Susan Metcalfe's Vocal Recital, 3, Æolian Hall. |
| TUES. | Mr. Charles W. Clark's Vocal Recital, 3, Æolian Hall. |
| — | M. Hegedus's Sonata Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall. |
| — | Afternoon with Brahms, 4.30, Leighton House. |
| — | Irish Concert, Queen's Hall, 7.30. |
| — | Irish Festival, 8, Albert Hall. |
| WED. | Madame Jeanne Kaunay and M. Faure's Recital, 3.15, Bechstein Hall. |
| — | Bach Choir, 8.30, Queen's Hall. |
| THURS. | Broadwood Concert, 8.30, Æolian Hall. |
| — | Wagner-Tschaikowsky Concert, 8.30, Queen's Hall. |
| SAT. | Chappell Ballad Concert, 2.30, Queen's Hall. |
| — | Drumhead Chamber Concert, 3.15, Cavendish Rooms. |
| — | Kruse Quartet, 3.15, Bechstein Hall. |

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

COURT.—*Mrs. Bill: a Play in Three Acts.* By Capt. John Kendall.

CAPT. KENDALL'S piece is a slight and trivial example of sentimental comedy. With its story of a girl who does not know her own mind and chooses the wrong sweetheart, and its picture of a modern David and Jonathan who as rivals in love preserve their mutual devotion, it may prove a welcome addition to the repertory of amateurs. But as a contribution to our drama this Anglo-Indian tale cannot for a moment be taken seriously; with all its daintiness of texture, it is only a glorified drawing-room entertainment. It has, however, two redeeming features. One is its study of a matchmaking chaperon, who constantly transfers her sympathy from one to the other of her niece's suitors, affects alternately to be mercenary and unworldly, and while pretending to guide the course of events is really at their mercy. The other is the "straight" talk which the two friends have concerning the girl with whom they are both in love: this has about it a pleasant ring of manliness and sincerity. But though Miss Marie Illington amuses as the chaperon, Miss Beatrice Terry proves a winsome heroine, and Mr. Rudger Harding is delightful as the bluff Jonathan rendered uncomfortable by his David's hero-worship, 'Mrs. Bill' is weak after so clever a drama of low life as 'The House.'

Tudor Facsimile Texts. (T. C. & E. C. Jack.)—A short time ago we had occasion to make a comparison between the first issues of the Malone Society and the series of editions produced by the Early Drama Society. Mr. John S. Farmer, who supervised the latter work, is now responsible for a long set of "Tudor Facsimile Texts," which, in method and workmanship, is greatly superior. We have received (1) *Believe as Ye List*, by Massinger, folio; (2) *King Darius*; (3) *John the Evangelist*; (4) *Wealth and Health*; (5) *Impatient Poverty*; (6) *Mankind*; (7) *Wisdom; or, Mind, Will, and Understanding*; and (8) *Lusty Juventus*. All are photographic facsimiles, the first, sixth, and seventh of MSS., the others of rare black-letter prints. The reproduction, especially of the MSS., has been well done; but we should like to have had the "paper" background in the black-letters lighter, and less grey in tone.

Scholars may, in no spirit of ingratitude, ask the question whether the labour and expense involved have been used to the best purpose. We admit the propriety of reproducing unique copies for preservation in public libraries against the risk of fire or negligence; but the first consideration should be the copying of important texts to which students are constantly referring—texts which they would be glad to have by them, if only that they might be saved the loss of many hours for a ten minutes' scrutiny in the British Museum. For texts such as these before us the excellent verbatim reprints of the Malone Society will serve every purpose. Further, that within a few months there should appear three expensive editions of 'John the Evangelist' is surely a waste of editorial energy.

Dramatic Gossip.

DUBLIN is rapidly gaining a reputation as the most play-writing and play-producing city in the British Isles outside London. Indeed it is a common saying there to-day that it is almost impossible to find a man who has not written a play or who does not contemplate writing one. For the production of so much new dramatic work the existence of an independent theatre, to which the touring companies do not come, is mainly responsible. For this theatre Dublin is indebted to the imagination of Mr. W. B. Yeats and the enthusiasm of Miss Horniman, without whose practical assistance it would never have come into being. The last of the playwrights to try his luck on the Abbey Theatre stage is Count Markievicz, a Polish artist, who five years ago was wholly unacquainted with the English language. The hero of 'Seymour's Redemption' is a member of Parliament whose *mariage de convenance* has created for him an unsympathetic environment, from which he is set free by the intervention of the woman whom he had jilted years before. The situations are developed with considerable skill, and the characters of Seymour, his friend Morley, and the two women are drawn with remarkable subtlety. The dialogue, though at times too rhetorical, is on the whole excellent; and the production of the play on Monday night created a most favourable impression. The principal parts were filled by J. M. Carré, Mr. O'Hara, Miss Constance Gore, and Miss Agnes Gunn, all members of the newly formed Independent Dramatic Company.

THE death on Thursday week last of Miss Lily Hanbury (Mrs. Herbert Guedalla) removes, at an early age, a well-known actress of great personal attractions. She had since her marriage in 1905 retired from the stage, where she had long been a favourite performer. She joined Wilson Barrett in 1890, playing in 'The Silver King,' 'Lights o' London,' and other pieces. She made a hit in 1893 in "a breeches part" in Mr. Pinero's play of 'The Amazons' at the Court. Latterly she had figured prominently in several of Mr. Tree's productions at His Majesty's Theatre, and in other important parts.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—E. J. M.—H. G.—E. M. J.—A. J. D.—Received.
A. M. B. M.—No such statement was made.
F. A. B.—G. A. D.—T. K.—Not suitable for us.
No notice can be taken of anonymous communications.
We cannot undertake to reply to inquiries concerning the appearance of reviews of books.

INDEX TO ADVERTISERS.

	PAGE
ARNOLD	332
AUTHORS' AGENTS	306
BELL & SONS	332
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS	307
CATALOGUES	306
CHATTO & WINDUS	310
DEIGHTON BELL & CO.	334
DENT & CO.	309
DUCKWORTH & CO.	333
EDUCATIONAL	305
EXHIBITIONS	305
HURST & BLACKETT	312
LECTURES	305
LONGMANS & CO.	308
MACMILLAN & CO.	312
MAGAZINES, &c.	307
MISCELLANEOUS	305
PRINTERS	306
PROVIDENT INSTITUTIONS	305
REEMAN	334
RIVERS	334
ROUTLEDGE & SONS	307
SALES BY AUCTION	306
SISLEY & CO.	334
SITUATIONS VACANT	305
SITUATIONS WANTED	305
SMITH, ELDER & CO.	336
SOCIETÀ TIPOGRAFICO-EDITRICE NAZIONALE	335
SOCIETIES	305
'TIMES' HISTORY	311
TYPE-WRITERS, &c.	306
UNWIN	312

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